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Warsaw Pact Meeting Fails To Resolve Tank Issue

LD2409073990 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 24 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Vitaliy Yaroshevskiy]

[Text] Prague September 24 TASS—Limits on individual types of weapons and hardware in the Warsaw Treaty armies were the principal item on the agenda of the Warsaw Treaty Disarmament Commission's two-day regular session here at the weekend.

Similar positions were evident on the determination of the number of aircraft and helicopters. On the other hand, agreement was not reached over the determination of the number of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and artillery guns.

These issues will now be discussed at Warsaw Treaty foreign ministers' meeting in New York on September 30.

Pact Members Refuse To Invite Soviets to Talks

PM2309170990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by Yu. Gatselyuk: "Without USSR Participation"]

[Text] Citing Poland's GAZETA WYBORCZA, REUTER reports from Warsaw the intention of the Polish, Hungarian, and Czechoslovak foreign and defense ministries to hold a meeting next week to discuss questions of defining the role of these states' armed forces in the new conditions. A Soviet delegation has not been invited to attend this meeting.

The newspaper emphasizes that this is the first case of Soviet representatives not participating in the discussion of questions concerning military organizational development at talks organized by Warsaw Pact countries.

Bronislaw Komorowski, Poland's deputy defense minister, rejected the suggestion that the member countries might try at this meeting to work out the fundamentals for creating a new military bloc. He indicated that Poland's prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, put forward the idea of holding this meeting during his June visit to Hungary.

"The Soviet Union has not been able to make enough progress with democratization. What is more, its Army has always played a priority role among the allies, and it was for that reason that we are not inviting its representatives to the coming meeting," Komorowski told the newspaper.

He pointed out that that the meeting will be held 27-30 September in Zakopane.

TASS Covers Shevardnadze's UN Assembly Visit

Shevardnadze Departs Moscow

LD2209052690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0510 GMT 22 Sep 90

[By TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Sep (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze this morning left by air for New York to take part in the work of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly. The head of the Soviet foreign-political department will also take part in a session of the foreign ministers of the 35 member-countries of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe devoted to preparations for the general European summit meeting to be held in Paris in November of this year.

Arrives in New York 22 Sep

LD2209170390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1620 GMT 22 Sep 90

[By TASS special correspondents Yevgeniy Menkes and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] New York 22 Sep (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, arrived here today to participate in the work of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly. The Soviet minister is to speak in the general political discussion starting at the session, in which he will formulate the most important immediate tasks facing the world community today. It is expected that on 25 September he will chair the session of the UN Security Council which is to examine the issue "the situation between Iraq and Kuwait." Eduard Shevardnadze is to take part in the session of foreign ministers of the 35 states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), planned for 1-2 October this year, for preparations of a pan-European summit in Paris planned for November, and in the talks within the framework of other regional groupings, and he is to hold numerous talks with leaders of the delegations represented at the session.

Comments on UN Session

LD2409082590 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 24 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Yevgeniy Menkes and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] "The current, 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly [UNGA] is not merely a meeting of representatives of the world community," Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told TASS.

"In my opinion, and I will address the General Assembly for the sixth time, it will mark a turning point in the entire system of international relations, will put an end to the 'cold war' era. It will determine, and I would say usher in a stage, when we must implement all the great ideas and ideals contained in the U.N. Charter.

"The work of the session is proceeding at a time when the world has agreed on the priority of universal values, when confronation and mutual threats are being replaced by interaction and partnership in settling the most acute global issues.

"This creates, and I wish to stress this, absolutely new conditions for the world forum's work. A concrete manifestation of such world relations is the community's reaction to the Gulf crisis. Iraq's unprovoked aggression against Kuwait dealt a blow at everything we have achieved in reshaping international relations as a result of new political thinking in the efforts to establish democratic norms in the life of different states.

"The United Nations is unquestionably undergoing a test today. This session's decisions will reflect the will of the world community, its resolution to restore peace and justice in keeping with the principles laid down by the United Nations' Charter."

Shevardnadze arrived in New York on Saturday. He will take part in the session's general political debate and preside over the September 25 Security Council meeting to discuss the Gulf crisis. He is expected to attend on October 1-2 a meeting of foreign ministers of 35 states—participants of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It will be called in New York to prepare an all-European summit conference to meet in Paris this November.

The Soviet foreign minister had his first working meetings on Sunday. He talked with the foreign ministers of the Ukraine, Belorussia and Kazakhstan. "The conversations were marked by a friendly and businesslike atmosphere, typical for the Soviet delegation's preparatory work at such United Nations forums," the minister told Soviet journalists.

"This year," Shevardnadze noted, "we invited all the Union republics to the session. In addition, delegations of the supreme soviets of many republics will also come to the session. Our purpose is to help the republics decide how to implement their constitutional right to sovereignty in the international arena, to study and make the utmost use of U.N. General Assembly recommendations in the process of building a law-governed state. Representatives of the Soviet republics will be able to acquaint themselves with the mechanisms of the United Nations."

"The process of our interaction with the republics is developing," Shevardnadze noted. "We have mapped out a whole line of measures in this direction, which will be implemented in Moscow after the delegation's return from New York.

"I wish to note," Shevardnadze stressed, "that there is absolute understanding and readiness to act in complete contact, not to lag behind events in the solution of the tasks facing us today. This was borne out by my talks with the foreign ministers of the Ukraine, Belorussia and Kazakhstan."

UN Debate on Conventional Arms Trade Previewed

LD2209213990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] General debates are due to start on 24 September at the UN General Assembly, and one of the topics will be, as in the past, international arms trade.

This year, the Persian Gulf Crisis has drawn particular attention to this. Reports about the Iraqi military machine and its suppliers have all given rise to a new wave of interest in the arms trade in the world in general, and stories, each more amazing than the next, are appearing in the newspapers.

Our commentator, Mikhail Osokin, reports:

[Begin Osokin video recording] The tanks we sold to Iraq frequently feature in television news, but against this background more unexpected reports have emerged: Stockholm television reports Sweden may purchase T-72 tanks, which are manufactured in Yugoslavia under Soviet license. [video shows tanks in action]

A staff officer told the correspondent that it is the best opportunity for modernizing the army when finances are limited. True, it is as yet unknown how this idea has been affected by U.S. experts' allegations that they had found weak points in the T-72's Iraq had received, that their communications systems can be put out of action by electronic interference, and that their munitions are liable to ignite.

Here's another story: While scenes like this of the withdrawal of Soviet aircraft from Eastern Europe appear on screens, talks have been held on the possibility of such machines appearing in the West. Experts in Switzerland have started discussing the idea of purchasing Soviet MiG-29's, and AFP reports that, in the opinion of the Swiss military department, Moscow could supply them. Many people think this is cheaper than buying the U.S. F-18.

Meanwhile, the Americans themselves are now devoting their main attention to defending Saudi Arabia from Iraq, and the decision has been made to supply the Saudis with a large consignment of weapons.

True, before this the U.S. had already managed to help Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn create a modern military machine.

Quite a lot of reports relate to China. A scandal erupted in the FRG this summer over secret supplies to China of electronic means of surveillance of Soviet units. The procuracy in Bonn has started an investigation into whether restrictions on supplying high technology to the East had been infringed upon. Meanwhile, a fresh surprise: Western diplomats allege that Beijing has secretly expressed a desire to purchase Soviet military technology. According to these allegations, Beijing is trying to find other sources, since it was cut off from the West after last year's events on Tiananmen Square. Israel has already become one such source, which has turned into China's main supplier of modern military technology. At the same time, China itself has sent weapons to those Israel regards as its enemies: the Arab countries, including both Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

All in all, the most unexpected variants emerge, in which money and politics are intermingled. Sorting out the secret world of the arms trade is no easy matter, but many of our legislators want to do precisely that now. This summer such demands were already being voiced in the Supreme Soviet. Now, at the new session, there will be discussion of the policy in the Persian Gulf, relations with Iraq; perhaps that will be talk of the scale of our arms trade as a whole. [passage omitted]

FRG Social Democratic Party Chief Visits Moscow

Lafontaine Arrives 21 Sep

LD2109141190 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Oskar Lafontaine, has arrived in Moscow on a visit. He is to have talks with President Mikhail Gorbachev. Attention will be focused on changes in Europe and German unification.

Gorbachev Meets Lafontaine

LD2109160990 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev today met Oskar Lafontaine, deputy chairman of the German Social Democratic Party and candidate for the post of federal chancellor.

The meeting conducted in a lively and sincere atmosphere dealt with many major issues: The place of a united Germany in the European process, its responsibility in implementing its constructive principles, prospects for Soviet-German cooperation in new conditions, the role of relations between the two parties in this cooperation and the fate of the socialist idea in the context of great changes in world development which attains new values and principles.

Gorbachev described reasons which prompted actions by the Soviet leadership on German unification, taking into account the will of the German people, the Soviet interests and sentiments of the Soviet people and relying on new possibilities of world politics.

"No need to belittle anything," Gorbachev noted. "We are passing from one epoch to another. This is true of our country, Europe and the entire world. It is not by chance that when Soviet perestroyka gave impetus, the entire world came into motion as if waiting for it.

"All had to reorganise themselves in some or other way. The new nature of world politics has withstood testing by events in Eastern Europe, Germany and now in the Gulf."

Gorbachev and Lafontaine expressed appraisals of the most important events in the domestic life of the two countries with conclusions on their possible influence on bilateral relations.

Germans in USSR Discussed

LD2109141790 Hamburg DPA in German 1336 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow (DPA)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is counting on close economic cooperation with a united Germany. During a meeting with SPD [Social Democratic Party] chancellor-candidate Oskar Lafontaine in Moscow today the two agreed that the opportunities offered by the German-Soviet treaty has to be exploited at all levels.

During the two-hour meeting in Gorbachev's study in the Kremlin, Lafontaine expressly thanked the president for the role he has played in the process of German unification. As the Saarland minister president announced afterward, the talk turned also to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the present GDR. The SPD politicians suggested an occupational training program for Soviet soldiers leaving the Army, which could be implemented with German aid.

Gorbachev also spoke in favor of creating a secure framework of conditions for Germans living in the USSR, Lafontaine announced. Germany's future role in international politics was also discussed. In this context Lafontaine appealed for the European Community—instead of Britain and France—having a permanent seat on the UN Security Council in the future. This proposal was positively received by his interlocutor.

The meeting, originally planned for late this afternoon was brought forward at short notice, because Gorbachev wanted to take part in the crisis session of parliament on the new economic program. Diplomatic circles saw it as a particular gesture toward the SPD delegation, which includes the politicians, Egon Bahr, Horst Ehmke, and Karl-Heinz Hiersemann, that Gorbachev nevertheless granted them so much time.

Lafontaine, who arrived in Moscow this morning, will continue his talks tomorrow with Stanislav Shatalin, the radical economic reformer. A meeting with Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian parliament, has been canceled because the latter had a car accident. On 23 September the Saarland minister president intends to hold talks with church representatives at Zagorsk monastery.

Talks 'Filled With Sincerity'

PM2209144590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Meeting with O. Lafontaine"]

[Text] On 21 September, M.S. Gorbachev met with Oskar Lafontaine, deputy chairman of the SPD and a candidate for the post of federal chancellor.

The lively talk, filled with sincerity and trust, in which Horst Ehmke, Egon Bahr, Karl-Heinz Hiersemann, and V.M. Falin took part, covered many major issues simultaneously—the place and responsibility of a unified Germany in the European process, the prospects for Soviet-German cooperation under the new conditions, the role assigned in this cooperation to relations between the two parties, and the fate of the socialist idea in the context of the impressive advances in world development, which is emerging to find new values and absolutely new principles.

In all this there is much still to be considered, M.S. Gorbachev said, although the political and legal foundations have already been laid for the relations between the USSR and a unified Germany and the dimensions of their economic ties have been outlined. The postwar period has receded into the past, but a lot of work still has to be done on the resurrection of relations between the two great nations, on the basis of the historic roots that have long fed these relations.

M.S. Gorbachev shed light on the motives that led the Soviet leadership to act in precisely this way and not otherwise in questions of Germany's unification, taking into account the will of the German people, its own state interests, and Soviet people's feelings and basing itself on the new potential of world politics.

We will underestimate nothing, M.S. Gorbachev noted. We are moving from one era to another. That applies to our country, to Europe, and to the whole world. It is not for nothing that when Soviet perestroyka lent the impetus the whole world, as though it had been waiting for it, was set in motion. Everyone had to restructure themselves in some respect. The new nature of world politics has withstood the test in connection with the events in East Europe, in Germany, and now in the Persian Gulf.

Although the time for the talk was compressed to the limit, the interlocutors managed also to touch on a number of specific questions. They included relations between the population and the Soviet troops still in Germany. The promise that they will be treated as soldiers of a friendly country is of fundamental importance now and for the future. There was also mention of anticommunist outbursts and attempts at political revenge in the GDR with a dangerous anti-Soviet subtext.

M.S. Gorbachev and O. Lafontaine gave assessments of what are now the most important elements in their countries' domestic lives, giving conclusions as to their possible influence on bilateral relations.

M.S. Gorbachev provided information on the state of affairs with regard to restoring Soviet Germans' autonomy.

They agreed to continue the dialogue, expand its subject matter, and fill it with topical content.

M.S. Gorbachev asked that good wishes and greetings be conveyed to W. Brandt and H.-J. Vogel.

Lafontaine Satisfied With Visit

LD2209153490 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 22 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Konstantin Voitsekhovich, Sergey Ryabikin, and Sergey Sosnovskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saarland, West Germany, and deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, has expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to Moscow and talks with President Gorbachev and other political and public figures. He spoke at a press conference here today.

The Social Democratic candidate to the post of West German chancellor stressed that he and Soviet officials, who took part in the talks, were unanimous in their opinion that it is necessary to further develop relations between the Soviet Union and united Germany. He pointed out that these relations should be developed both in the political and economic spheres. Lafontaine spoke in favour of "partnership in the sphere of security" and said that he was ready to promote the teaching of Soviet servicemen, now in the GDR, some civilian trades and professions. He believes that this will promote the Soviet Union's transition to a market-based system.

Lafontaine welcomed the proclaiming of the GDR territory a nuclear-free zone and expressed hope that in the future the nuclear-free regime will be spread to the whole of German territory.

Asked about possible contacts between the Social Democratic Party of Germany and parties of social democratic orientation in the USSR, Lafontaine pointed out that they are not properly organised so far. At the same time, he said that his party would maintain contacts with all parties that support social democratic ideas.

The deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany rejected a possibility of forming a coalition with the GDR Party of Democratic Socialism at the all-German elections scheduled for December 3.

Lafontaine expressed regret that he had not managed to meet President of the Russian Federation Boris Yeltsin who had a car accident on Friday. He sent a bunch of flowers to Yeltsin and wished him quick recovery.

PRAVDA Profiles Lafontaine

PM2409101590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 5

[Report on interview with Oskar Lafontaine, SPD deputy chairman and premier of Saarland, by Ye. Grigoryev; date not given; published under the "Political Portrait" rubric: "Oskar Lafontaine—The Man Who Stirs Things Up"]

[Text] Bonn—I admit that I have never before had occasion to interview a politician who has been the target of an assassination. Oscar Lafontaine—the Social Democratic Party of Germany candidate for chancellor, deputy chairman of the party, and prime minister of the Saarland—was the target of such an attack in Cologne last April. Miraculously he survived. A madwoman's knife stopped 1 mm from his carotid artery. A long scar on his neck is a reminder of that attack now. And when the subject of the past crops up, as it is bound to, he says: "A professional politician is aware of the potential danger that goes with his work. When it happened I immediately realized what was going on. It took me two or three months to recuperate and overcome the inner trauma. I was very much helped by the great public sympathy both at home and abroad. In particular, I received letters from President Gorbachev, many Soviet people, and friends in Tbilisi. But I myself had to find the strength to undertake the new tasks in which I am now engaged."

The main task is to try to win the all-German elections on 2 December. Or at least to substantially broaden the Social Democrats' position in the Bundestag. Under the prevailing conditions that is a herculean task. In the domestic political sphere, the German unification process is currently developing largely in favor of the Christian Democrats.

"We realize that we face a difficult struggle," my interlocutor explains. "All elections are difficult, but the forthcoming ones will be particularly so. For our party, German unification means, as I have said from the very outset, the creation of equal living conditions throughout the country—in both the western and eastern parts. The Social Democrats have always defended the interests of the majority of the population."

"Your political opponents are calling these approaches hysterical and slanderous."

"Well, that is their usual method. Hysterical... The majority of politicians really got the assessment of the unification processes wrong. The introduction of financial union certainly has not improved the GDR economy. Today what we see is the opposite: In our country a continuing economic upsurge, but over there a sharp decline. The federal chancellor has promised that life will begin to improve for many people in the GDR while no one here will have to go without anything. The reality is different. Here, I repeat, is where I see the basis of our political success. One has to listen to the people's opinion (that is why the press sometimes calls me a populist). And, furthermore, you have to have the courage to speak the truth even if it is unpleasant."

Back in the Saarland, Lafontaine has scored two brilliant Land election victories in a row—in 1985 and in February this year. This effectively predetermined his nomination as SPD candidate for the chancellorship. But many things have had to be adjusted along the way. When the party council selected Lafontaine in spring, it had FRG elections in mind. Now, however, he is going to be "reconfirmed" at the German Social Democratic Unification Congress in Berlin on 28 September as the SPD candidate in the all-German elections. Also, as you can easily imagine, this quite different scale of responsibility has grown in an almost geometric progression.

He is 46 years old and belongs to the galaxy of young SPD figures who have been called "Brandt's grandchildren." Incidentally, they include several more notable figures, a fact which marks the SPD out favorably and augurs well for it—if not now then in the foreseeable future—compared with the Christian Democratic Union [CDU]. That party has no "young blood" at present and is dominated by the undoubted authority of H. Kohl.

To the conservative camp, Lafontaine is someone who "stirs things up." He knows how to attract the attention of the mass media. His views, assessments, and ideas have been the subject of numerous stormy debates. In terms of popularity he has steadily outstripped the chancellor and it is only recently that the polls have been favoring Kohl. But the candidate is not losing heart, by the way, and it is Lafontaine who will "dampen down" the mood of national euphoria and not allow it to obscure the social problems which, believe me, even this wealthy country has.

Many people in Lafontaine's own party have mixed feelings about him. Some of his tactical ploys are not fully understood. However, Lafontaine's extraordinary nature, his oratorical skill shorn of false pathos, his directness, and his unaffected way of communicating impress many people.

The "Progress-90" program was compiled under Lafontaine's leadership. It will be presented for approval by the upcoming congress in Berlin as the SPD's election and government program. It contains exactly 100 points, but they cover only a few of the basic areas.

"In short, we deal here primarily with a taxation and ecological reform which would encourage energy saving and thus reduce the threat to the environment," my interlocutor explained. "Then we propose a reform of family law aimed at helping families with children. The classic Social Democratic themes are also present in the program. Namely, reducing unemployment, particularly long-term unemployment, and developing housing construction, which is an extremely topical issue in our country too. Our foreign policy ideas have long been known. They are peaceful cooperation with our neighbors and disarmament."

"Nevertheless, why is there no separate foreign policy section in the program?"

"The fact is that many of the SPD's foreign policy ideas are already being implemented," Lafontaine replied. "The inviolability of Poland's western border has been confirmed. The German armed forces will be virtually halved. The territory of the present-day GDR will be a nuclear-free zone. The draft period will be cut to 12 months even though a year ago the government sought to increase it. The modernization of the Lance missiles is no longer an issue. Even low-altitude training flights by the Air Force will be reduced, though even that is not enough. International environmental cooperation must be established."

"Just what is the 'ecologically industrialized society' that you propose?"

"This is a new concept. So far economic management has been organized in such a way that businessmen were not responsible for the burden that they placed on the environment, that burden was borne by society. But we need an industrial society which ensures approximately the same level of prosperity with reduced energy consumption."

We were talking at the Saarland office in Bonn. He recently returned from Washington. He is planning a trip to Moscow.

"The changes in Eastern Europe would have been impossible but for the policy of perestroyka and glasnost," O. Lafontaine said. "That is why I would like to meet with Mikhail Gorbachev. In my view, his policy is aimed at Europeanizing the Soviet Union. The image of the European home is the symbol of that.

"One of the European tasks," he went on, "is to offer Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union, support and assistance in changing its structures and building a market economy. I have always regarded the market as the system offering the maximum economic freedom, although it needs social control and ecological improvement. In the dialogue among communists, socialists, and social democrats on the choice of path I have always favored the view that the market economy not only does not contradict the free development of each person but, on the contrary, is the fundamental condition for revealing the individual's abilities. The familiar forms of organizing social life in which a number of old men decide everything for everyone else always seemed to me undemocratic and contrary to the fundamental idea of socialism. That is why perestroyka is to me like the dawn of the Enlightenment and humanism. I think that we—that is, Western society—should do everything to support this policy. I am ready to participate in this to the best of my abilities."

"The Saarland has good experience of cooperation with the USSR."

"Yes, we have developed it over many years. First between Saarbruecken and Tbilisi, then between the Saarland and Georgia. We began with tourist, sports, and cultural exchanges. Now we are trying to cooperate more in the economic sphere. There have been successes but there have also been difficulties. To be frank, it is difficult for Saarland enterprises, working in market conditions, to deal with enterprises plugged into a state economy. Nevertheless, contacts have led to a number of major projects relating, among other things, to the equipping of Black Sea ports. In the long term, however, small-scale forms of cooperation are also promising."

...It is immediately obvious that Lafontaine feels at home on political problems. During the conversation he returned a number of times to the theme of the favorable opportunities that will be presented by ending the East-West conflict. He is convinced that Willi Brandt's new Ostpolitik was an important milestone on the path toward the changes which have now begun. But an even more important milestone, Lafontaine believes, is Gorbachev's policy, which destroyed the old bastions of international conflict and cleared the way to a new phase of international cooperation.

By all accounts, my interlocutor is most interested in European problems in all their diversity. He shares the idea of an all-European confederation of states.

"The model of a European home requires the building of some all-European security structures," he said developing that idea. "The CSCE is the broad framework, Western Europe the narrower one. However, any security policy on the continent must consider the Soviet Union's security interests. West European integration must include the East European countries and the USSR in that process, too. The changes in Eastern Europe are a European process as well. In my view, there are three factors which are now important for Western Europe and consequently for Germany too: economic might, the gradual involvement of the East European countries, including the USSR, in the European community, and the creation of European security structures."

Whatever fate awaits my interlocutor, he, as a candidate for this lofty post, cannot but look toward the future today. What will the united Germany be like?

"There must be a fusion of the two societies, of course," O. Lafontaine noted. "Development in one part of the country will influence the other to some extent, and vice versa. It is hard to say what specific form the new society will take. I am no prophet. But we shall do everything to ensure that it remains a democratic Germany. In the final analysis, Germany has but one path—European unity and cooperation with its neighbors."

I asked one last question: Does he have some family connection with the French fabulist La Fontaine? Oskar smiled. He does not know, although he has traced his family tree back to the beginning of the 17th century. The family comes "from across the border" by way of marriage between between a peasant called Lafontaine and a woman from the Saarland village of Ueberhang. In addition, a certain Captain Lafontaine appeared in the historical chronicles of Saarbruecken back in 1644.

"So you have no connection with the fable writer?"

"Only as a reader. And as an occasional writer of fables myself," Oskar Lafontaine said, with his customary sense of humor.

Chernyshev on NATO Reductions in Germany

LD2109125890 Moscow TASS in English 1241 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS military analyst Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Plans to reduce troops deployed in Germany are being announced in one NATO country after another. President Francois Mitterrand stated, during a meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, that France intended to cut its Armed Forces in Germany by 50 percent during the first stage of troop reduction. Great Britain, Belgium and Canada announced a partial withdrawal of troops from Western "frontline defences" in Europe. Referring to White House information, a spokesman of the State Chancery of the West German Land of Bavaria said that about 60,000 U.S. troops would be withdrawn from the Federal Republic.

All these plans are to be welcomed. Bonn's declaration that the foreign military presence should be reduced in a future united Germany is very important. The forthcoming cuts can be regarded as a gradual NATO renunciation of the "frontline defence" concept, which envisages huge NATO military concentrations along the line between the two blocs.

Such a deployment of NATO armed forces has always alarmed the East, because it increased the danger of a surprise attack. The Soviet Union repeatedly offerred to establish a zone of reduced military deployment along the border of the two blocs and to leave only defensive forces there. However, the West turned a deaf ear to these initiatives. But now Western leaders appear to recognise that "frontline" troops should be reduced.

The new unilateral NATO initiatives should improve the situation at the Vienna talks on conventional armed forces in Europe. It should be recalled that the West refused to discuss reducing the numerical strength of armed forces from the very beginning of the talks. The first step to approximate the positions of all sides on this question was made by the United States. It moved to cut the numerical strength of Soviet and American forces to definite levels. The second step was the agreement reached between Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl on the maximum numerical strength of united Germany's armed forces, which means a reduction of the Bundeswehr and GDR National Army from a total of 600,000 men to 370,000.

NATO countries have now declared that they are prepared to discuss at the second stage of the conference the numerical strength of the armed forces of parties to the Vienna talks. But recent events have shown that contemporary realities do not fit into preset Western patterns. Life is making substantial revisions in the positions of the sides. And it is very important that this is realised in NATO countries. They not only realise it, but are making practical steps in this direction.

Zholkver Views Effects of German Unification

LD2109164190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "International Situation: Questions and Answers" program, presented by foreign political commentator Yuriy Isayev, with political observer Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Excerpts] [Isayev] Our mailbag continues to contain many letters about the problem of the unification of Germany. I would even say that in connection with the fact that the final meeting between the foreign ministers of the two German states and the four powers of the anti-Hitler coalition took place in Moscow last week the number of such letters has risen. We have letters from Comrades Tyuterin, from the town of Orekhovo-Zuyevo; Artsebasov, from the town of Kuvandyk, Orenburg Oblast; Ryzhko, from Minsk; Gerashchenko and Tsiganko, from Kharkov; and many, many others. I have asked our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver to answer their letters.

[Zholkver] [passage omitted] I would like to dwell on the question which has been asked by our regular listener, war veteran Comrade Gerashchenko. He asks why we withdrew our proposal about the neutrality of a united Germany. I would not say that we withdrew it. It is just that in present conditions it did not meet with support. There were various reasons for this. Paris and London considered that German neutrality could spoil its close economic links with France and Great Britain. Washington considered that German neutrality would complicate U.S. relations with Western Europe. Among the Germans themselves, many expressed the fear that a Germany that is not a member of any alliance could become a factor of instability in Europe.

Comrade Gerashchenko is concerned that it is proposed that a united Germany will be a member of NATO. However, one cannot but see that NATO has recently become something quite different. Comrade Gerashchenko himself reminds us that the NATO countries are preparing to conclude a nonaggression treaty with the Warsaw Pact member states. True, he remarks that a nonaggression treaty existed in the past between the USSR and Germany and was perfidously violated by Hitler. But can one look only to the past?

The situation in Europe and in the world as a whole is totally different today. Let me remind you that at the talks in Vienna the representatives of the countries of NATO and the Warsaw Pact are finishing off drafting an agreement on a considerable reduction of the armed forces and armaments of both alliances in Europe. And, in general, these alliance are increasingly actively changing from military groupings into political ones.

As far as directly concerns Germany, let me note that the treaty signed in Moscow by the foreign ministers of the six states limits the size of its armed forces to 370,000 men instead of the present 600,000. Moreover, Germany renounces nuclear and any other mass destruction weapons. Our troops will be located on the territory of what is now the GDR for the transitional period, until the end of 1994, and then no foreign troops will be stationed on this territory.

Now I will touch upon questions concerning our bilateral relations with the future united Germany. That same Comrade Grashchenko asks whether Germany will pay compensation for the damage caused to our country by the war unleashed by Hitler. First of all, I shall note that there is no way in which compensation can be made for the death of millions of our fellow citizens. This was stated by FRG Foreign Minister Genscher in an interview with me during the meeting of the Six in Moscow. As far as concerns reparations for economic losses, these were paid in the past by both German states, in money, in goods, in vessels, and in equipment from dismantled enterprises.

Unification's Effect on GDR Military Discussed

PM2109091590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Sep 90 First Edition p 3

[Article by TASS FRG correspondent FRG V. Chistyakov, especially written for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: "The Bundeswehr and the NVA. What Will the Day of Unification Mean For Them?"]

[Text] Some unusual guests recently visited the Ninth Fighter Aviation Squadron of the GDR National People's Army [NVA] at its base near Peenemuende. An official delegation from the FRG Air Force came here for the first time in postwar history. And this was not a courtesy visit: Armed with numerous and most detailed questionnaires, the West German officers carried out a real inspection of all the squadron's complex facilities.

Such visitors no longer surprise anyone in the GDR. After all, an FRG military department working group made up of senior Bundeswehr officers has been operating in the Berlin Ministry of Disarmament and Defense since 20 August. Its task is to prepare conditions for merging the NVA with the FRG Armed Forces after the unification of the two German states 3 October. Therefore, all the doors and safes containing top-secret documentation classified as "state secret" are now open to the Bundeswehr experts who until quite recently personified a perfectly real enemy rather than a theoretical one.

It is no longer a secret to anyone that 4 October, the first day of united Germany's existence, will at the same time be the last day for the GDR Army, which will be liquidated, although later on some servicemen will join the all-German armed forces personnel. Nor is it a secret that the fate of thousands of NVA soldiers and officers is being decided nowadays not on the banks of the Spree but on the Rhine, in the FRG Defense Ministry.

FRG military circles are well aware of the fact that the creation of an all-German army will entail numerous difficulties. Dozens of new problems are arising every day and by no means all of them have an unambiguous answer. Thus, for example, the future of military hardware in service with the NVA must be decided. Up until the present, the Bundeswehr leadership has categorically refused to take all these numerous categories of arms into their inventory, including some state-of-the-art models. At the moment no one knows what to do with them. There is a similar problem with the hundreds of tonnes of various kinds of ammunition which is to be destroyed.

Many barracks, depots, and other specialized installations will no longer be needed, and a sizeable proportion of the approximately 30 test sites and 100 firing ranges, occupying over 120,000 hectares of land, is to be abolished. The dismantling of specialized equipment has already begun at one of them, near Bad Liebenwerda. A nature reserve will be created here with the agreement of the Ministry of Ecology.

The question of the NVA "movable and real property" is to be resolved despite all its complexity and the need for very substantial capital investments. Thus, according to an FRG Defense Ministry spokesman, at least the field kitchens and soldiers' underwear will come in useful in the all-German army. Some people are already proposing to sell the military hardware to developing countries where enough customers will supposedly be found (admittedly, in view of the Iraq-Kuwait conflict, there are few supporters of this idea today).

The future of servicemen who will not be needed in the all-German army is the cause of much greater concern (primarily in the GDR). FRG Defense Ministry specialists have already proposed an option whereby the future German Army will comprise 320,000 West German servicemen and 50,000 former GDR soldiers and officers. As far as the FRG is concerned, a movement in this direction is already under way. A decision was adopted at a sitting of the federal government at the end of August, which, if approved by the Bundestag, will mean that the length of military service in the country will be reduced from 15 to 12 months. The appropriate draft law has been submitted to parliament. It is expected to come into force 1 October this year, and will thus be effective on the territory of the whole of Germany after the unification of the GDR and the FRG. In practice, this means that all young men who will have completed 12 or more months of service in the armed forces by then will be transferred to the reserve. However, it is generally thought that this will not solve the problem. Sizeable reductions are to be made not just among servicemen doing compulsory service, but—and this is much more complex—among the professionals, in other words the officers and NCO's. This will cause particular difficulties in the GDR. According to data at the Bonn Defense Ministry's disposal, there are now almost 100,000 servicemen in the NVA, of whom almost 40,000 are officers and NCO's, and around 10,000 are servicemen on extended military service. Add the approximately 100,000 workers and employees in defense industry enterprises, and the problem reaches truly catastrophic proportions.

Bonn intends to strike the first blow at those who are 55 or older. They will all be retired on the grounds of old age. Thus, not more than 35 of the 117 NVA generals and admirals will remain in service by 4 October. The second "high-risk group" comprises political worker officers for whom there is no room in the Bundeswehr, as has already been announced on the banks of the Rhine. Over 1,000 female service personnel are also falling into the category of clear outsiders who will have to look for another job.

What will befall the rest? It is assumed that all officers and NCO's will be temporarily removed from service. Those who express a desire to continue their service in the Bundeswehr will face a special commission which will also determine their professional worth. At the moment it is still not known what criteria will be used to select candidates. Only one thing is clear: Political loyalty will be a deciding factor for future officers. It is believed here that members of the former Socialist Unity Party of Germany aktiv will be the first to be eliminated, especially those who held elective posts in party organizations or who participated in the work of conferences and congresses at any time. It is calculated in Bonn that a total of no more than 20,000 contestants can get through the "fine-tooth comb" of the prejudiced commission, and this number may drop further still.

This problem looks different on the other side of the border, which is formally still being maintained. Let us start with the fact that Bundeswehr Inspector General D. Wellershof recently stated that not a single officer will be discharged against his will. The second and perhaps most important point is that, in the FRG, even officers and NCO's who have been discharged from military service do not fear for their future. Despite the prevailing high level of unemployment, they are not afraid of joining the army of the "superfluous." The point is that the majority of officers manage to obtain a civil specialization and a corresponding diploma during their years of service, and also attend several really useful courses to improve their skills in their "peaceful" profession. A total of up to 85,000 certificates of various kinds are issued annually in the Bundeswehr, testifying to the completion of study courses and practical production training. You will agree that this is not a bad indicator for armed forces whose personnel numbers around 490,000.

Finally, the "VIS" [as transliterated, expansion unknown] Electronic Data Base was recently set up to provide services for servicemen about to be discharged. The computer memory contains exhaustive information on about 25,000 educational training programs for work in industry, agriculture, and the services sphere. "The electronic consultant" assists in choosing an individual and most convenient option for acquisition of professional knowledge.

The West German system functions very successfully. But will it be possible to help all the servicemen who will fall "victim" to the armed forces reduction? During a conversation in the Bundestag, I put this question to two deputies from the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany]—Dietrich Sperling and Gert Weiskirchen—who are familiar with this problem. And even the social democrats, who frequently criticized the government for its erroneous—from their viewpoint—policy in the military sphere, admitted unanimously that there are no difficulties for officers in today's Bundeswehr in this connection. As far as the GDR military are concerned, however... As yet, neither Bonn nor Berlin knows the answer to this question.

United States & Canada

Joint Law, Economic Conference Ends in Moscow

Primakov Views Problems

LD2109191490 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Member of the presidential Council Yevgeniy Primakov described here today problems, to which "the Soviet political leadership is now paying close attention", at the Soviet-American conference "Law and Economic Cooperation".

He addressed the final plenary meeting of the forum of Soviet and American lawyers.

Primakov stressed that the present conference was being held at a turning point for the development of the international situation when the world passed the stage of departure from the cold war.

He noted that all civilised forces are now facing a more difficult task of establishing a new world order based on justice and the right of every nation to make an independent choice.

Primakov emphasised that Soviet-American relations are of special importance in these circumstances.

On the one hand, euphoria over perestroyka in the USSR is fading away in the United States, on the other, reorganisation processes are growing more difficult in the Soviet Union.

In this context he put the question of how to overcome this situation "from both sides" without damaging the development of Soviet-American relations.

Primakov noted that the military and political parity, on which Soviet-American relations were based for a long time, continues to play its role even today, although it does not fulfill its former functions of containment of a potential enemy, since there is no need now to speak about a potential enemy.

He also mentioned new elements in the military and political situation which are connected with drastic changes in East European countries.

According to Primakov, the new military and political situation demands that the USSR and the United States step up their efforts so that the Warsaw Treaty and NATO would increasingly turn into political organisations, abandoning their military functions.

He stressed that such an approach would help get "out of the present-day situation in order not to upset the balance and relations between our countries".

He expressed satisfaction that the two countries are now moving in this direction, which manifested itself in settling the German question.

Touching on regional conflicts, Primakov noted that virtually all of them recently blended well with the texture of Soviet-American confrontation.

The situation is now changing. In these conditions, the two countries should do their utmost to defuse brewing regional conflicts.

He mentioned the Gulf conflict, noting the positive results of the two countries' cooperation, including closer positions on drafting measures to use political options and a stiff economic blockade.

Gorbachev Addresses Conference

LD2109185990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today the Soviet-U.S. conference on law and economic cooperation concluded in Moscow. This evening a reception was arranged in honor of the participants of the conference. USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke at the reception.

Conference Concludes 21 Sep

LD2109205490 Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by TASS correspondent Mikhail Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—The Soviet-American conference "Law and Economic Cooperation" which was held in Moscow between September 19-21, was an important move to strengthen relations between the USSR and the United States.

It was attended by about 3,000 lawyers and representatives of the business community, public organisations and state bodies of the two countries.

Soviet and American Presidents Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush sent messages to conference participants.

The forum was addressed by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov, his deputy Leonid Abalkin, member of the Presidential Council Yevgeniy Primakov, Soviet Justice Minister Veniamin Yakovlev and other Soviet representatives.

Speaking at the closing of the forum today, the chairman of the Soviet part of the conference organising committee, Academician Stepan Sitaryan, stressed that the results of the meeting surpassed "hopes and expectations of its participants."

The intensive exchange of opinions on a broad range of issues was under way all these days. Conference participants were interested in various aspects of state authority, juridical proceedings, human rights and freedoms and the position of national minorities.

Much attention was given to various global problems, including disarmament, efficient environmental control and fight against international terrorism and drug addiction.

The conference drew the following conclusion on the basis of the broad exchange of opinions and information: The more complicated the world is, the more important it is to assert the idea of supremacy of law, both in international relations and inside every country.

The conference also concluded that economic prosperity is inseparably linked with the observation of generally recognised rules not only in domestic life, including ethnic problems, but also in international economic relations.

Several business negotiations between representatives of the American side and Soviet Government bodies and mass organisations were held during the conference.

In the opinion of conference participants, it should initiate regular and fruitful cooperation between Soviet and American lawyers. Proposals were made to set up a permanent committee and working groups of Soviet and American lawyers.

A reception at the Grand Kremlin Palace was held in honor of conference participants tonight. The reception was addressed by Gorbachev.

Military-Industrial Meeting Held in Boston

PM2109135590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by IZVESTIYA correspondent A. Blinov: "Conference in Boston"]

[Text] Washington—Representatives of the Soviet and U.S. military-industrial complexes have held a joint conference in the U.S. city of Boston under the peaceful slogan "Swords Into Plowshares." They discussed ways and means of converting defense production to the manufacture of civilian goods.

The conference was held on the initiative of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace and the U.S. Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies. The heads of ministries producing defense goods and the leaders of major enterprises in this sector took part in the conference on the Soviet side. The American side consisted of representatives of the administration and major corporations engaged in military production or interested in the possibility of establishing ties with what they consider to be the most advanced sector of Soviet industry.

Vladimir Koblov, head of the Soviet delegation and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Commission for Military-Industrial Questions, talked about the results of the conference by telephone from Boston.

"It was undoubtedly the biggest practical meeting so far of departments and sectors taking part in defense industry conversion. The Americans are very interested in the prospects of our perestroyka and in the defense industry's conversion to the manufacture of goods for the agro-industrial complex, the food industry, and light industry, as well as consumer goods.

"We told them that we are doing this on an increasing scale. We began by diversifying production and trying to balance wage funds with consumer goods and then moved on to extensive conversion. Whereas in 1987 only 35 percent of defense enterprises' output was intended for civilian consumption, now almost half of it is. We plan to ensure that 65 percent of their output is intended for civilian consumption by 1995.

"It goes without saying that such a broad switch requires new technology and active foreign economic ties. We are interested in building business ties with U.S. firms and setting up joint ventures. The Americans are showing noticeably greater interest in doing business with us. Whereas our programs were treated with polite attention and sometimes even skepticism in the past, now there are increasingly frequent specific proposals for cooperation. This has made it possible to expand the list of real joint projects. As soon as we return home, we intend to study a number of proposals we have received regarding the organization of joint production.

"We also heard criticism and complaints. U.S. businessmen regard our perennial bureaucratic red tape as a serious impediment to bilateral economic ties. They feel that telephone and other communications between our countries are of such a standard that it is sometimes impossible to quickly resolve a problem and convey necessary information. This is another serious impediment to the development of cooperation.

"The criticism was not all one-sided, however. We believe—and many U.S. businessmen agree with us on this—that it is essential, in the interests of building cooperation, to ratify a Soviet-U.S. trade agreement as soon as possible and give our country most-favored-nation status. The Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] restrictions are also a serious impediment to the implementation of long-term projects, such as the plan to create a trans-Siberian fiber-optic communication line.

"We have agreed to set up joint groups responsible for specific aspects of cooperation. We will be taking with us to Moscow the Americans' proposed plan for establishing an international fund to finance defense industry conversion projects. I definitely think this plan should be supported."

Here is the opinion of Lawrence Korb, one of the Americans who took part in the conference and an eminent specialist on military-political problems and disarmament. One of the top men in the Pentagon in the past, he is now involved with scientific work in Washington's Brookings Institution.

"The meeting in Boston illustrated the differences in the approach to defense industry conversion taken by the United States and the Soviet Union but, at the same time, showed the considerable potential for our cooperation in this sphere. The United States spends less of its GNP on military needs than the Soviet Union does, so the scale of our defense industry conversion and its impact on the economy are proportionally less.

"In your country the military industry is ahead of civilian production in terms of technological sophistication. But in the United States it often lags behind. This means that a reduction in military orders usually leads to a drop in the volume of output at firms which previously filled these orders. This is a temporary problem, however. Experience has shown that employment falls wherever military orders are cut or military bases closed down. After a comparatively short time, however, employment is restored to its old level and sometimes even exceeds it. In any case, defense industry conversion is a positive process.

"Your defense sectors could do a great deal to meet the needs of industry and the population. It goes without saying that if they organize mass production for the consumer market, they will solve the problems of profitability. I think U.S. firms could give them effective help in this, particularly in areas such as mastering marketing and modern management methods."

U.S. Congress Moves To Cut Military Spending

PM2409131590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
21 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent V. Linnik: "Will They Kill the 'Sacred Cow'? Pentagon Cuts Spending"]

[Text] New York, 20 Sep—The U.S. House of Representatives has voted to allocate $283 billion to the Pentagon, lopping some $20 billion off the amount the administration had asked for. The Senate too has previously advocated cuts, although not to this extent. Now the bicameral Conference Committee will have to thrash out a compromise on the final extent of the cuts.

This step by the legislators is actually no sensation. It had long been expected. The country has to solve the budget deficit problem—and this can only be done by cutting spending or increasing federal revenue. With the end of the "cold war" military spending is no longer a "sacred cow." A reduction in it is seen by legislators as one of the main ways to put U.S. finances in order. So it was quite natural for our military men to be surprised that now—when East-West confrontation is becoming a thing of the past—the White House was asking for some $300 billion for defense spending. They would be defending themselves to the tune of almost $1 billion a day (if you only count working days—V.L.)! Who and what are they defending themselves against?

The Soviet Union, according to prevailing opinion here, has ceased to pose a military threat to the United States. Who is there left to confront apart from the former "evil empire"? The invasion of Panama cost the Americans some $163 million—that is, as much as would be spent in just a few hours under the current budget! The presence of the U.S. expeditionary corps in Saudi Arabia, of course, will require far more expenditure, but this still cannot be compared with the above level of spending.

Currently there is talk of expenditure of the order of $18 billion until the end of the year. Moreover, the Americans might be able—although by no means without difficulty—to persuade Japan, Saudi Arabia, the FRG, and even Britain to chip in to cover the cost of Operation "Desert Shield." So the burden of expenditure to maintain the 15,000-strong U.S. expeditionary corps in the Arabian peninsula will now be spread more equitably.

So it is surprising that, against the backdrop of rhetoric about a new world order based, as the President recently said, on "harmony" between East and West and between North and South, the administration is so unwilling to abandon the inertia of its previous approaches to the policy of military appropriations. There is nothing surprising in the fact that Congress is beginning to counter this inertia more and more acutely.

The most resolute step taken by the legislators is to almost halve spending on the SDI program, cutting it by some $2 billion. Attention is also drawn by the intention of the House of Representatives to cancel the B-2 fighter-bomber construction program. Yet over the past month the Pentagon has sent several squadrons of these aircraft to Saudi Arabia specially to keep the program afloat by demonstrating the B-2's combat capabilities.

But on the eve of the November congressional elections the legislators are tending to listen more closely than usual to the mood of U.S. public sentiment. It is today geared to solving America's increasingly serious domestic problems.

U.S. Base Closings, Military Reductions Viewed

Cheney Announces Plans

PM2209125590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
20 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA press service report: "Pentagon Reduces its 'Spots' Abroad"]

[Text] Some 127 military establishments will be closed and the number of servicemen will be reduced at a further 23.

The United States will completely end or reduce its presence at 150 military establishments throughout the world, including 106 establishments in West Germany.

This was stated Tuesday by U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney. According to him, this decision was taken in response to the reduction of "the Soviet threat in Europe and budget difficulties in Washington." "As we reduce the total numbers of our Armed Forces it is becoming necessary correspondingly to reduce the number of establishments at which these forces are based, both in the United States itself and abroad," he said.

The Pentagon has made public a list of all 150 establishments to be closed or cut back. They include both quite small military installations and large bases situated in a total of 10 countries. The major bases from which U.S. troops will be entirely withdrawn include the Hessisch Oldendorf and Lindsey air bases in West Germany and the Torrejon air base in Spain. In all the Pentagon will completely cease its operations at 94 establishments in West Germany, 11 in Spain, and nine in South Korea. In addition three military establishments each will be closed in Italy, Greece, Britain, and Australia and one in Japan.

Some of these changes will begin in fiscal 1991 and some in fiscal 1992 while others will begin later, Pete Williams, the Pentagon press liaison officer announced. He said nothing about what number of U.S. servicemen will be affected by these measures. But he noted that they are in full accordance with the reductions which should come into force after the conclusion of the treaty on conventional Armed Forces with the Soviet Union, UPI reports.

According to a REUTER report, General John Galvin, supreme commander in chief of the NATO Allied forces in Europe, has told journalists that on the question of the reduction of bases there has been close coordination between officials in the United States and other countries, primarily West Germany. "We did not simply wave a list under their nose," he said.

Let us recall that this is the Pentagon's second measure to be announced this year. In January Defense Secretary Cheney announced the closure of 14 military establishments abroad and asked for Congress' agreement to the closure of 69 establishments in the United States itself in connection with the thaw in Soviet-U.S. relations and the need to reduce military expenditure.

Europe 'First Target' for Cuts

OW2209083190 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Commentary by Dmitriyev]

[Text] The U.S. Department of Defense announced on 18 September that it would reduce or withdraw troops from and close facilities on military bases overseas. First of all, according to the announcement by U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney on 18 September, the number of troops will be reduced at 150 military bases and facilities in 10 nations over the next 10 years. The decision reportedly was made for two major reasons: namely, the decrease of the Soviet threat in Europe and U.S. financial difficulties. Generally speaking, the Pentagon's decision is in line with the global trend. In other words, the trend is to shift various East-West relations from confrontation to dialogue, and, accordingly, it is in line with the tendency of reducing the role of military factors in settling global problems.

Incidently, the European Continent is the first target of the current reduction plans. This is only natural when we take into consideration the fact that the defusion of tension in the international situation can be felt more strongly in Europe than anywhere else. The large air bases in (Oldenburg) and (Lindo) in West Germany and (Trefon) in Spain are among the military facilities to be reduced. This reduction can be regarded as the U.S. response to the Soviet decision to end its military presence in East European nations.

However, on the other hand, it should also be noted that almost all the facilities to be reduced are auxiliary facilities such as training grounds, warehouses, barracks, study rooms for personnel, and garages. In this connection, we still cannot conclude that the Pentagon's current decision is an indication of a policy for an overall end to its military presence overseas. It seems more likely that the current decision is meant for problems not connected with the entire system. It can be said that, to some extent, the decision has been made because of the Mideast crisis.

The Pentagon spokesmen said Tuesday that the method of deploying U.S. forces will be changed in accordance with changes in the international situation. These remarks probably endorse the above observation that the current decision does not involve the entire system.

Well, according to the Pentagon's current decision, far fewer facilities will be reduced in the Asian-Pacific region than in Europe. This time, only nine facilities in the ROK, three in Australia, and only one in Japan will be removed. And no large facilities such as those to be removed from West Germany, as mentioned above, are among them.

According to KYODO, facilities to be removed from Japan include only one base, that is, Camp Foster of the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Okinawa. The Kadena Naval Air Facility will be moved to the Air Force facilities on the same air base in Kadena. Thus, these are the only facilities that the U.S. plan to remove from Japan.

In this way, the plan seems to be rather incomplete. However, if only the two sides cherish good will, the Pentagon's current decision will serve as a model plan, and, with this decision as a start, it will be possible to move toward an overall suspension of the foreign military presence in the Asian-Pacific region.

The Soviet Union has long been making efforts toward achieving this objective. Whatever the pretext is, the foreign military presence can merely delay the process of defusing tension, when viewed objectively. Perhaps this fact is most noticeable with regard to the situation on the Korean peninsula. Nevertheless, because several U.S. military facilities will be removed from the ROK in accordance with the current decision, it probably will contribute to the development of dialogue between South and North Korea.

Here, I would like to recall the proposal Soviet leader Gorbachev made when speaking in Krasnoyarsk in 1988: namely, the Soviet Union would withdraw from its base in Kam Ranh Bay, while the United States should withdraw from its Clark military base and Subic naval base. However, this proposal was not accepted. Since then, the Soviet Union has started withdrawing its troops from Kam Ranh Bay, and it has become uncertain whether U.S. military bases in the Philippines will be allowed to exist indefinitely.

Morever, it was utterly unthinkable up to two years ago that the United States would agree to any kind of reduction of its bases in the Asian-Pacific region. Despite this, such a situation now exists. This very fact can be taken as a proof that the opportunity is now gradually ripening for the start of extensive political dialogue on the issue of regional security in Asia. In other words, the fact can be taken as a proof that the time is gradually ripening for formulating a new regional security structure based, after all, not on foreign military bases but on everlasting political cooperation.

Talks on Philippines Bases

HK2409091190 Moscow in Tagalog to the Philippines 1300 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Commentary by Anatoliy Aleksandrov]

[Text] The Philippine flag is raised in Clark Air Base and other U.S. installations to show Philippine sovereignty. But this is only a symbol because in reality the United States has jurisdiction over these facilities, particularly in restricted areas. Manila is not informed about the operations in the military bases. Military equipment is sent to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean from Clark Air Base. From Diego Garcia it is taken to the Persian Gulf. Subic Naval Base is a transit point for soldiers from the United States going to and from Hawaii.

The series of bases talks formally ended today. According to Rafael Alunan, one of the Philippine negotiators, the government should have full control of the military bases and this should be carried out immediately. Manila wants Clark Air Base closed next year, when the treaty ends. Subic Naval Base can remain for three more years.

Manila and Washington both agreed to the gradual withdrawal of the bases in such a way that it will not affect the interests of either country. Civilian use of the bases is recommended so that workers in these facilities will not be seriously affected. Clark will be converted to an international airport while Subic Naval Base will be an international shipyard and repair station.

Washington reiterated that this process should be gradual so that the Pentagon can find another location, such as Singapore. Both parties agree that the extensive military presence of the United States in the Asian-Pacific region is no longer necessary. U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage said that the days of the military bases are mumbered. Although Manila wants the withdrawal of the bases in four years, Washington favors a gradual process which will conclude in the next century. According to President Aquino, if no agreement is reached by next January, the bases should be dismantled.

U.S. Officials Comment on Changed Relations

Ambassador Matlock Interviewed

90UF0548A Moscow PRAVITELSTVENNY VESTNIK in Russian No 37, Sep 90 (signed to press 7 Sep) p 12

[Interview with U.S. Ambassador to USSR John Matlock conducted by Ye. Kolesnikova and L. Chernenko, at the U.S. ambassador's residence in Moscow; date not given: "America in the Arbat"—first three paragraphs are an editorial introduction]

[Text] If a normal resident of the "model communist city" came to be outside this building on Chaykovskaya Street earlier, he would try to pass by it as quickly as possible. He would pay no attention to the lit display windows showing some eye-catching photographs, the stars and stripes, the big dashing automobiles, and the militia officers in the sentry boxes, whose trained look bores through everyone as if suspecting a secret desire to enter this building. But such a thing was never on people's minds in those days. The American Embassy was for us a symbol of an alien, hostile world, which had targeted nuclear missiles on our cities and was pushing us into an arms race. We might perhaps come here for a demonstration in defense of the American homeless or in support of Doctor Heider on hunger strike outside the White House.

Or, indeed, do you remember how one paper published a close-up photograph of numerous antennae on the embassy roof. We were being bugged, it was said. There would be reports in the press now and then, but quite regularly, about some American diplomats having been caught red-handed trying to obtain intelligence information. It was this kind of scant information which created in us not that attractive an image of the American Embassy.

Today, when there has been a warming of our relations, there has been a change for us in both the image of America and the image of the embassy. It is now associated with two likable Americans—Mr. John Matlock, who has an excellent command of Russian and is a connoisseur of our literature, and his wife—Mrs. Rebecca—who is known in our country for her dazzling photography. When relations become warmer, policy is personified and humanized. After all, it is by no means a matter of indifference which Americans here in Moscow are evaluating and analyzing the situation in the country, political tendencies, and the psychological atmosphere, largely determining by their information White House decisions also. We have been lucky, it may be said, that in such a difficult period for our country such an experienced diplomat as Jack Matlock is U.S. ambassador in the USSR. As he himself says, "my job is communicating." And for this reason the ambassador has meetings every day, and not only with officials. The range of his contacts is quite extensive—from Soviet leaders through those whom we were even recently calling dissidents. The ambassador agrees readily to contacts with journalists also. He received us in his residence—an old private house on an Arbat sidestreet—Spaso House. We sat around the fireplace in his library and talked.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Mr. Matlock! A most important mission of any embassy is shaping an image of the country in which it operates for its own government and its people. What image of our country are you creating these days?

[Matlock] We are indeed communicating to the government our impressions of the events taking place in the Soviet Union and trying to describe them as objectively as possible. At times we confine ourselves simply to the facts, without comment. Your country is going through perestroyka, a period of reforms. Appreciable changes have occurred in the state system of administration, and the conditions for a multiparty system have been created. There have been changes also in the nature of the relations between the republics and the center. We are, naturally, following these events and trying in our work to create a basis for Americans' understanding of what is happening in your country.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] It is your fourth time in the Soviet Union. Even comparing the former times and today is difficult—these are different eras. A significant evolution in your view?

[Matlock] Yes, of course. An evolution which has had a particular effect on the state, party, and economic systems. The steps in the direction of glasnost created the basis for democratization. And the present democracy is inconceivable without glasnost and freedom of the press. The public can judge the policy of the state and government only on the basis of information. Otherwise people would be incapable, say, of intelligently electing representatives to the organs of power.

How to compare the present day with past years? I was in the Soviet Union in the period of detente. At that time we observed big changes in foreign policy, but nothing changed appreciably within the country. Even when political relations between the Soviet Union and the United States were good, seemingly, there was the slogan: "There can be no detente in the sphere of ideological struggle." And although extensive business relations had already been established, the obstacles to communication and an exchange of information were, for all that, almost the same as they had been during the cold war.

I believe that the situation now is completely different. The improvement in Soviet-American relations is being accompanied by fundamental changes within the USSR. And both countries are deriving enormous benefits from these changes. It has become clear that there are no fundamental contradictions between our states. And what used to divide us was not the difference in political and economic systems. It was something else. The interests of the Soviet Union are not contrary to those of America, and, consequently, we need to cooperate and not seek reasons for confrontation. To answer in brief as to what the essence of the evolution has been, earlier we simply observed a truce in the cold war, but now peace has come.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Sound evidence of this was the Soviet Union being accorded most-favored-nation status in trade. What are the chances, in your view, of Congress approving this decision?

[Matlock] It will, I believe. But if the USSR Supreme Soviet enacts a law on entry and departure.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] But then the American Embassy would have new problems. There would be an addition to those wishing to go to the United States, and today's substantial lines will get even longer.

[Matlock] A large part of the people who may be seen at our embassy will be going to America as visitors. We are issuing approximately 100,000 temporary visas a year. There are emigres too, of course. We are not, naturally, in a position to receive all who wish to go. Nor is the United States any exception here, incidentally—curbs on entry and permanent residence have been adopted in many countries.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Your work style is characterized by extensive contacts with various circles of the Soviet community. They once included so-called dissidents also. But Secretary of State J. Baker made the statement recently that the American Government would continue to maintain contacts with the opposition in the USSR. Whom do you consider the opposition now?

[Matlock] When we speak of countries with a multiparty system, we always mean by opposition a party which is at a given moment not the ruling party. For example, the Social Democrats in Germany—they are the opposition. But in a year or two theirs could be the ruling party. The secretary of state did not mean that we support some people particularly. No, we simply maintain contacts with the representatives of different parties and political beliefs in order to get to know in practice about all currents.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] And what do you get from these contacts?

[Matlock] A deeper understanding of what is happening in the country. In just the same way that the Soviet Embassy in the United States organizes meetings with leaders of the America's Democratic Party. We are very interested, for example, in how the economic reform and the transition to market relations will work out. And for this reason we are conferring with leading scholars and specialists and seeing differences in their approaches and plans for the future. An ability to listen and compare different viewpoints is very important for a diplomat.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] How often do you speak with George Bush?

[Matlock] Such meetings take place when I go to Washington. Five or six times a year, no more. From Moscow I telephone, as a rule, Secretary of State J. Baker. This is the style of relations.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Is it known when the U.S. President will visit Moscow?

[Matlock] It is clear as yet merely that the next summit will be in the Soviet Union. It all depends when the foreign ministers prepare it. It would be good to sign a treaty on a 50 percent reduction in strategic offensive arms at it. And, if possible, to have done this before the end of the year. But, after all, no one, in my opinion, has any interest in signing a bad treaty. This is too important a document not only for our countries but also for the world. And for this reason a great deal of work remains to be done on it.

But the possibility of other meetings of the leaders of our countries cannot be ruled out, of course. Such a meeting will take place in November in Paris at the top-level Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. And, as you know, U.S. President George Bush will meet with USSR President M.S. Gorbachev on 9 September in Helsinki. This will be a kind of "informal meeting" of the leaders of the two countries. It is anticipated that attention will be given in the course of this meeting to the situation in the Persian Gulf and other matters also.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] And how do you view our interaction under the conditions of the conflict in the Near East?

[Matlock] We believe that our cooperation politically is very positive. We voted together with the other members of the Security Council against Iraq's annexation of Kuwait and voted together for the adoption of sanctions also. This was proof that our positions coincide. Of course, there are specific features in the approaches, and I will not maintain that in the solution of this problem our approaches agree fully. The USSR's relations with Iraq are different from those of the United States. But we support ways toward the achievement of peace on this territory being found and for Iraq being compelled to quit Kuwait. After all, a challenge to the entire system of international security has been thrown down here. Such provocative aggression cannot go unpunished. And, in my opinion, both the United States and the Soviet Union agree on this.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] What is for you a typical work day?

[Matlock] There is, probably, no typical day, there is on each occasion something new. Usually around 0900 I read the papers and cables from Washington and meet with the embassy staff. I schedule work meetings and pay visits to leaders in Moscow. The day will be scheduled down to the minute—interviews right up to the evening. Communicating with people is my job. Of course, I have to perform assignments also—convey messages to Soviet leaders, say.

I try to visit the Motion Picture Center and the House of Scientists. My wife and I tour the country frequently. After all, the life of the capital is not all that typical of the state as a whole. So it is everywhere, not only in the USSR. If one lives merely in the city, one does not get an objective idea of the country. We have visited the far east, for example, and been to Baykal three times. We are trying to familiarize ourselves with the whole country. Although this is difficult—the country is vast. And it is difficult to find the time for such trips. Many important visitors are coming from the United States currently, and we have a great deal of work here in Moscow.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Mr. Ambassador, you are very popular in the Soviet Union and are performing a notable political role in the life of our country. How well known are you in the United States?

[Matlock] People know me less well there. First, I live here, not in America. And, second, I am visible to you—I am on television and give interviews to journalists. I believe that Soviet ambassadors in Washington also are better known to Americans than at home. So it should be, in my opinion.

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] Will your experience of working in the USSR be reflected in your future career? What plans do you have?

[Matlock] Oh, I have no intention of carving out any political career. I have already spent 34 years in the professional diplomatic service and when it is over I will most likely retire. I would like to write a couple of books....

[PRAVITELSVENNY VESTNIK] But as yet work.... Do you consider it professional good fortune that you have caught Russia at a time of such changes?

[Matlock] I have simply been lucky. This is more interesting than all the previous periods.[end Matlock]

The logs in the fireplace, which had been burning brightly while we were talking, began to die out, becoming red charcoal. This was like an unobtrusive sign that it was time for the interview to come to an end. We knew that the ambassador had several other meetings scheduled. His working day continued....

Congressman on End of Rivalry

PM2409090990 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 First Edition p 5

[Report by N. Pakhomov: "Difficulties Are Surmountable"]

[Text] Washington—Soviet-U.S. relations have now entered an entirely new stage.

The end of the "cold war," the cessation of rivalry, and the development of cooperation between the two powers are greatly benefiting not only the Soviet Union and the United States but also the whole world. It is improving before our very eyes. This was stated by Dante Fascell, an eminent U.S. politician and chairman of the U.S. Congress House Foreign Affairs Committee. In an interview with a TASS correspondent he stressed that the main thing now is to continue to build up what has already been achieved in Soviet-U.S. relations, for the sake of the consolidation of security in the world.

We in the United States, the congressman said, are grateful to the Soviet Union for the position of understanding and support which it has adopted during the present crisis in the Persian Gulf. Not so long ago, when we did not trust each other and stood on the path of confrontation, that would have been impossible. Now we have begun to cooperate, and that means that the prospects of peace throughout the world have improved.

D. Fascell believes it is exceptionally important that Soviet-U.S. summit meetings become regular. These meetings are very useful, he said.

Touching on the acute domestic problems, particularly economic problems, which the Soviet Union is experiencing, he stated that he believes them to be the difficulties of the transitional period and voiced the hope that they will be surmounted. Success cannot come in an instant, D. Fascell said, for this hard work and patience are required. The congressman assessed highly the courage of the Soviet leadership which has embarked on the path of reforms which have already led to enormous changes in the world.

Despite all its problems, the Soviet Union has been and remains a great power, the congressman stressed. After all, he said, it is not a case of the present state of the economy, it is entirely a case of people. And the Soviet people have always been characterized by courage, firm character, resolve, the readiness for sacrifices, and enormous love for their motherland. No one will ever forget the heroism of Stalingrad or Russian people's contribution to the development of world science, art, and culture. That is what makes your country great. I believe it will achieve successes and that Soviet people's lives will become better, D. Fascell stated.

China

New Ambassador to China Interviewed on Tie

PM2209202390 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 23 Sep 90 p 3

[Interview with Nikolay Nikolayevich Solovyev, the new USSR ambassador to the PRC, by A. Zhemchugov; place and date not given: "Our Man in Beijing"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Excerpt] The USSR president has appointed a new USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PRC—Nikolay Nikolayevich Solovyev. At the request of the SELSKAYA ZHIZN editorial office he agreed to give a brief interview before flying out.

[Zhemchugov] What is your mood as you set off for Beijing?

[Solovyev] I shall tell you frankly that the appointment to the PRC was somewhat unexpected for me as for 39 years I have been linked only with Japan. The point is that my specialization in that country began back at the Moscow institute of international relations, from which I graduated in 1957. And then I began work as a consultant at the USSR Embassy in Japan and for the past four years I have been the USSR's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Japan. But at the same time this is a very responsible posting that I have now received. For me it is a matter of great honor. Because as China is China, is a great power, our neighbor, the post of USSR ambassador to China has always been an honorable one for Soviet diplomats.

[Zhemchugov] Nearly 18 months have elapsed since Mikhail Sergeyevich's visit to China, which helped the complete normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. How do you assess the development of relations between the two countries in the period since then?

[Solovyev] Of course, over these 18 months there have been substantial changes in bilateral relations. Economic and cultural ties are developing. Talks are under way on very serious questions. But the main thing is that a large number of people and organizations on both sides have been enlisted to these relations. That is important because the more people take part in the development of relations, the mor lasting these relations will be and the more the peoples of the two countries will trust each other.

[Zhemchugov] Nonetheless, the universal opinion is that the potential for cooperation between the Soviet Union and China is being used far from fully and primarily in the economic field. What is hampering this?

[Solovyev] The development of business relations with China is being impeded primarily by the complex economic situation in the USSR. The old is being broken up and the new is being established. But to ensure that the new mechanism works all its components must "fit" each other and that requires time. The countries also have different views of several political problems. But that is not the main thing. The main thing is that both sides are not emphasizing their differences but are trying to overcome them on the basis of the common elements which exist between our countries. It is from these positions that I shall approach my work in the PRC. It is essential to seek the common elements which unite our countries. Of course, we have different histories, cultures, traditions, and specific features. That must be taken into account. But any differences can be overcome with a common idea—that of creating a firm basis for friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation. [passage omitted].

Sino-Soviet Fishery Cooperation Meeting Ends

OW2309061990 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report by station reporter on a meeting of the "Soviet-Chinese Mixed Committee for Fishery Cooperation" attended by Monakov, Soviet vice minister of the fish industry, and Liu Jiang, Chinese vice minister of agriculture, in Moscow on 20 September—comments by Monakov in Russian fading into Mandarin translation read by announcer]

[Text] [Announcer] Listeners, the Soviet-Chinese Mixed Committee for Fishery Cooperation ended in Moscow on Thursday. The committee signed a protocol at the closing session. Station reporter (Mikhayelov) filed this report:

[(Mikhayelov)] The mixed committee, set up in accordance with an agreement signed by the Soviet and Chinese Governments, meets every year. The recent meeting discussed cooperation in scientific research, maritime fishing, cultivation of marine products, and other questions. In an interview, Monakov, Soviet vice minister of the fish industry, spoke on the outcome of the recent meeting.

[Monakov] Both the Soviet Union and China are interested in developing fishery cooperation between the two countries. The Soviet Union has rich experience in sea fisheries, while China has rich experience in pond and lake fisheries and in aquatic plant cultivation. A number of joint projects have been undertaken since last year's meeting. Soviet experts are working on Chinese fishing boats, which conduct fishing operations in Soviet Far East economic zones in accordance with an agreement. China is building a workshop for cultivating kelp in the Soviet Union. Kelp cultivation offers bright prosperity, and China possesses advanced technology in this area.

The meeting also discussed another issue, namely, protection of fishery resources in the Amur River. This is a very sharp and pressing issue. It is necessary to single out one point. In recent years, the number of salmon in the Amur River has declined by 90 percent, and Soviet enterprises engaged in salmon processing have suffered from a lack of salmon. Young salmon grow in the Soviet river. After maturing, they swim to the Chinese river to spawn. When they reach the Chinese river, the Chinese side catch a large number of them. Last year, the Chinese caught 1,000-1,200 tonnes of salmon. This happened because China has no relevant laws. How should we solve this problem? I raised this question with Liu Jiang, the Chinese representative at the mixed committee and vice minister of agriculture. This was his answer:

[Begin Liu Jiang recording] The Chinese and Soviet sides attach great importance to the protection of resources in the entire course of the Heilong Jiang. This is because it takes a long time to recover aquatic product resources once they are destroyed. The two countries intend to make it a special topic of discussion. We plan to bring our experts over in November to discuss and study with the Soviet side the protection of yellow croaker and salmon resources in the entire course of the Heilong Jiang and the Songhua Jiang. [end recording]

[(Mikhayelov)] Let me add this: It will not be an easy job to solve questions like this before the next mixed committee meeting. The two sides are trying to develop a fishing system that serves not only exploitation but also protection and reproduction of fishery resources in the Amur river.

Chinese Military Delegation Arrives in Mongolia

OW2209130190 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] According to XINHUA, at the invitation of the Ministry of National Defense of Mongolia, a Chinese military delegation, headed by Major General Fu Jiaping, director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the Chinese Ministry of Defense [title as heard], arrived in Ulaanbaatar Saturday.

This is the first visit by a Chinese military delegation to Mongolia since 1961, following the conclusion of the cold war.

Northeast Asia

Shevardnadze To Visit With ROK Counterpart

SK2409113590 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 22 Sep 90

[From the "Asian News" segment of the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his ROK counterpart Choe Ho-chung are scheduled to hold their first talk at the end of this month to discuss developing bilateral relations.

An adviser to ROK President No Tae-u talked about this today in Seoul. According to him, the meeting between the two foreign ministers will be held on 30 September in New York.

While in the United States, the two foreign ministers will participate in the United Nations General Assembly session.

According to the adviser, President No Tae-u gave Minister Choe Ho-chung an important directive. Seoul Radio said No Tae-u's personal letter, which specified dates for mutual visits, will be sent to Mikhail Gorbachev through Shevardnadze.

Seoul reacted affirmatively to the DPRK proposal on accepting ROK cultural activists for a week-long pannational performance for reunification at the end of October in Pyongyang.

According to YONHAP, the ROK Government will allow 14 musicians and three reporters invited by Pyongyang to visit the DPRK. The DPRK said the performances will contribute to an atmosphere favorable to national reunification and to developing the ethnic nation's culture.

Reports Examine Relations With ROK

Will Not Hamper DPRK Ties

SK2209000090 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report by (Yegrin Aleksandrov)]

[Text] The reporters who had watched the situation on the Korean peninsula for many years guessed at the possibility that the Soviet Union and South Korea would establish diplomatic relations. However, they now ask when Moscow and Seoul will announce the exchange of embassies. Soviet reporter (Yegrin Aleksandrov) writes the following on this subject.

According to a very reliable source, the Soviet Union and South Korea are expected to announce the exchange of their embassies at the meeting scheduled for 26 September in New York between their foreign ministers. As is known, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung are expected to participate in the work of the 45th UN General Assembly. If everything goes as planned, they will be able to announce the consummation of the decision adopted nearly half a year ago. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and South Korean President No Tae-u met in San Francisco early this summer. At this meeting, they agreed in principle that the two countries will push ahead with the establishment of official relations. Probably, the events we will witness before long are perceived differently throughout the world. Some have a calm outlook, while others express some anxiety, if I may speak frankly.

As far as I am concerned, this anxiety is utterly groundless, because the Soviet line in external relations can be flexible. The Soviet external line is established on the firm and clear basis of the new political thought. Composing the framework of this line are the aspiration for peace, realism, mutually beneficial cooperation, and the aspiration for amicable relations with other countries.

Another very important issue is that we never advance the development of relations with one country to the detriment of our relations with other countries. Therefore, for instance, there is no reason to express anxiety over the fate of the existing relations between Moscow and Pyongyang. I regard this anxiety as sufficiently objective, considering how it came about, because it is very difficult to totally abandon the habitual position of confrontation that prevailed for decades. We were in a similar position before; therefore, we well know what it is like. In other words, we know how much misery the people suffered from the policy of "those who are not for us are aginst us" by those who used it as an almighty political tool. This policy once sounded very revolutionary.

Actually, this rigid policy delayed the ending of the cold war for many years. However, the cold war is not over yet in every part of the world. The consequences of the military and political confrontation are felt more sharply on the Korean peninsula than in any other part of the world. Yet, the alleviation of tension has not occurred on the Korean peninsula. A meeting between the North and South Korean premiers was held in Seoul early September for the first time in history. This meeting was important in itself. The talks in Seoul not only enabled each side to express its position frankly and enabled the other side to state its demands, but marked a starting point for high-level political dialogue.

Here I would like to mention another aspect of the situation in Korea. For decades in Korea it was considered that the Soviet Union was an ally of the People's Korea and that they jointly stood against the alliance between the United States and South Korea. However, with the advance of international detente, this concept of the situation turned out to be a clear anachronism. The world trend not only [word indistinct] the climate of international politics but [word indistinct] the peaceloving potential of the Soviet policy. Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, during his recent visit to the Far East, tried to use this potential more smoothly. Touching on the situation in Korea, he stated to reporters, "We will act as we think necessary. The establishment of diplomatic relations is one of the sovereign rights of each country."

DPRK's Position Highlighted

PM2209165990 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 p 3

[Report by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent A. Platkovskiy: "Pyongyang Burns Bridges"]

[Text] Until now one could only guess how painfully Pyongyang would receive the establishment, now under preparation, of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Seoul. It was understood that even a traditional friend and ally would not be forgiven such "impudence." The question was how far the country's leadership intended to go.

And it is only now that Pyongyang's position has largely become clear. The central newspaper MINJU CHOSON has made public a DPRK Foreign Ministry memorandum presented recently through diplomatic channels to the Soviet side. This official document contains what is essentially an ultimatum demand that Moscow renounce the establishment of diplomatic relations with South Korea. This step is called a "splittist action" which legalizes and perpetuates the "two Koreas" situation and impedes the country's unification. According to the memorandum, its consequences will be as follows.

Having established diplomatic relations the Soviet Union enters into a deal with the United States and South Korea aimed at overthrowing the existing system in the DPRK. As a result Seoul begins to conduct itself "increasingly arrogantly and conceitedly" in relations with Pyongyang and sets about uniting the country according to the "German scenario"—by swallowing up the DPRK. Dialogue between North and South comes to an end. The ally treaty between the USSR and the DPRK loses its force and Pyongyang rejects the military cooperation envisaged by the treaty and "takes steps to produce a number of types of weapons by its own forces."

This scenario will come into operation immediately after an official accord has been reached between Moscow and Seoul on diplomatic recognition of each other. When will that happen? It is reported that on 26 September Eduard Shevardnadze will meet with his South Korean counterpart in New York at the UN General Assembly and an official statement may be made on the subject.

There is almost no time left at all. Pyongyang's public demarche could be assessed as an attempt to use its last chance to pressure Moscow. If that does not help—will its bridges be definitively burnt? It is not hard to understand that the line to which to all appearances the DPRK leadership intends to adhere under the new conditions is fraught with unpredictability.

Imminent Normalization Hinted

SK2409081990 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Commentary by station commentator Oleg Alekseyev]

[Text] Media in various countries throughout the world, including countries in Asia and the Pacific, are noting that relations between the Soviet Union and South Korea have developed and become active in recent months.

Regarding this, station commentator Oleg Alekseyev wrote the following:

In fact, during the past few months, ties between the Soviet Union and South Korea have been developing very actively. Trade is expanding and bilateral contacts in such areas as culture, science, and sports are becoming more active.

As observed by many critics, Moscow and Seoul have come closer to establishing diplomatic relations. There seems to be no doubt such a measure will make the international relationship in the Far East healthy.

The Soviet Union is making an effort to develop normal, civilized relations and cooperation with all the countries in Asia and the Pacific, excluding no nation, according to the theory of foreign policy President Mikhail Gorbachev declared for the first time in Vladivostok in 1986.

It is in this context that our country sees the possibility of establishing diplomatic relations with Seoul in the not-too-distant future. But Pyongyang, regrettably, interprets such a prospect from a different angle, according to an article in MINJU CHOSON.

First, I would like to emphasize the following on the opinion expressed by the above paper: In formulating foreign policy, the Soviet Union tries to consider all factors, including, of course, other countries' opinions. It is quite natural that the Soviet Union places national interest before everything else when formulating foreign policy. The Soviet Union recognizes such rights in all other countries. This is part of the "new thinking" which is helping guide our country's foreign policy.

I cannot agree with the opinion that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Seoul means our country is about to take part in a plot for fabricating two Koreas.

In fact, does it mean that any plot has been mentioned? [as heard]

Does it mean the existence of the two Koreas during the last 45 years is not reality? The postwar period divided the Korean peninsula into the South and North. From that time on, the states founded in the South and North have taken different roads.

Is shutting our eyes to such a fact and denying the existence of South Korea realistic? It is entirely different that people in the South and North of Korea genuinely hope for the friendly relations between the two Koreas to be strengthened.

The search is on for ways to strengthen the friendly relations between the South and North based on mutual understanding and trust and that search is becoming more active. This gives nothing but joy.

It must not be ruled out that eventually in this process, the South and the North can achieve reunification. What is important at this moment is the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula. Of course, this task requires going beyond the framework of the relations between the two Koreas.

This task can be fulfilled completely only in the context of making international relations healthy as a whole. I am convinced the complete normalization of relations between Moscow and Seoul has a mission, an affirmative role in this.

ROK Postpones UN Admission Issue

SK2209112490 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "Asian News" segment of the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] South Korea has decided to postpone the handling of the issue of its admission into the United Nations until the second premiers' meeting of the North and South of Korea, which is to be held in Pyongyang on 16-19 October, an ROK spokesman has stated in Seoul.

He said that the decision to postpone the handling of South Korea's admission into the United Nations was made to promote conditions favorable to Pyongyang's meeting. He also said that the South Korean Government had decided to allow South Korean musicians and reporters to participate in a national festival for the reunification of the North and South of Korea to be held in Pyongyang in October. This festival [words indistinct] the premiers' meeting.

RSFSR Official Comments on ROK Food Ties

SK2209013290 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Report on interview with (Anatoliy Urchuzanin), first vice minister of agriculture and food of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic; place and date not given; from the "Focus on Asia" program—recorded in Russian with superimposed Korean translation; read by announcer]

[Text] [Announcer] A delegation from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] paid its first visit to the ROK. First Vice Minister (Anatoliy Urchuzanin) led the delegation. Our station reporter (Vladimir Morozov) reports on this:

[(Morozov)] At present, the development of trade between the USSR and the ROK and of ROK investment in the USSR is being discussed more actively in the RSFSR than in the rest of the country. This is because industrial leaders from developed countries (?prefer) contacts with the government of each federated republic over contacts with the central government. According to the industrial leaders of those countries, the governments of the federated republics are the genuine guardians of the exportable resources which can be exported.

The RSFSR Minister of Agriculture has begun contacts with ROK companies since the 1988 Olympic Games. (Kim Chae-kun), president of (Korea Techno-Wenchel) Company, invited the RSFSR minister of agriculture. The company plays a middleman role between Soviet and ROK companies for Soviet exports of agricultural products, particularly deer antlers which are important ingredients for medicines.

(Anatoliy Urchuzanin), RSFSR vice minister of agriculture, says the following: Without developing economic relations with foreign countries, we would be unable to build the RSFSR's agribusiness. This is why we are invigorating the activities of the ministry of agriculture through new management techniques and styles. At present, we maintain relations with 120 companies from many nations. Our relations with the FRG, Italy, Yugoslavia, and Spain are very remarkable. These relations are ones based on the spirit of reciprocity. Our relations with ROK companies, you can say, are now in a stage of infancy. However, we think that the cooperation is effective and that it will expand.

[(Morozov)] What does the RSFSR ministry expect from cooperation with ROK companies?

[(Urchuzanin)] The ROK has achieved economic development in a very short time and has joined the ranks of the industrialized nations of the world. Japan has spent some 30 years to create the same miracle. Agribusiness has magnificently developed in the ROK. At the same time, development in other areas has also been dazzling. During our visit to the ROK some time ago, we established relations with companies that have occupied a place in the world market with their products. We are particularly interested in baby food production.

[(Morozov)] Why are you so interested in baby food production?

[(Urchuzanin)] In our country, baby food production is very scarce, and quality is also very poor. At the same time, our facilities are very outdated. In contrast, ROK companies have made outstanding inventions in this area, and their technological process (?can be adopted) in our production. In the course of baby food production, we would be able to qualitatively improve our agribusiness. To produce baby food, because of human hygiene, extremely sanitary materials are necessary. This necessity will make it possible to improve all production processes: from handling agricultural raw materials to all other processes. In the course of this, the producers' performance will reach a high level and agricultural cultivation and processes will also reach a new level.

[(Morozov)] Which ROK companies have you already established relations with?

[(Urchuzanin)] We have met with the representatives of the Lotte group, which is composed of 28 individual companies. They account for 68 percent of the total food production in the ROK. Lotte is capable of rehabilitating 10-15 food processing plants and of beginning to produce baby food in the RSFSR. All this would be done in joint venture operations. We have also talked with the

Korea Trade Promotion Corporation, which is prestigious among ROK business circles and which can provide an introduction to cooperation with us. We have also visited food research institutes, farms, the trade center, and the medical association, and have talked with many businessmen.

[(Morozov)] Let us finally sum up the RSFSR delegation's visit to the ROK.

[(Urchuzanin)] We are taking practical measures to implement all the agreements reached during our visit. We have even established a special task force group, which will be responsible for contacts with ROK companies. This group will perform all tasks in the near future and will contact regional (?circles) in the RSFSR and select enterprises which will be renovated with technological processes from Lotte. According to the agreement with the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation, we will also hold baby food exhibitions in 1991 at the Soviet Economic Exhibition Hall. Meanwhile, in connection with the growing demand for deer antlers and other (?products) and their rising prices, we have also discussed with the ROK companies ways of cooperation in this area. In this connection, we will control all households which raise deer and their export-related activities. At present, this work is not controlled. In conclusion, I can say that our visit was equally beneficial for both us and the ROK companies. Presently, a draft of agreement is being prepared for signature by the heads of the appropriate ROK companies and us in Moscow in late September or early October.

DPRK Officer Discusses Ties With Soviet Army

SK2209030390 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report of an interview with Colonel Cho Chi-kun, director of the Propaganda Department under the DRPK's People's Army General Political Bureau, in Minsk; date not given; from the "Annals of Friendship" program]

[Text] The 16th friendship military film festival is being held in Minsk, capital of the Belorussian Republic of the Soviet Union. Participating in the festival are military delegations from nine countries, including a DPRK documentary film delegation.

The festival provides an opportunity to see with fresh eyes events that have taken place in the world and the soldier's life in various countries. It also is expected to help military cultural functionaries see more clearly the future of mutual relations between our people and soldiers. This is how its organizers perceive the goal of the festival.

Station reporters covering the film festival in Minsk met and talked with Colonel Cho Chi-kun, director of the Propaganda Department under the Korean People's Army General Political Bureau and head of the DPRK delegation.

[Begin Cho recording] To ensure the success of the 16th film festival organized by the Soviet Army's General Political Bureau and [name indistinct], we have brought with us two scientific films, "Soldier Acrobatics" and a film on a Korean naval flotilla's visit to Vladivostok. [end recording]

[Announcer] The films mentioned by Col Cho Chi-kun were well received by festival participants and viewers. Uninterrupted applause followed their showing. I believe the judges will rate the films as they deserve. Our Korean friends also hope so.

[Begin Cho recording] We took part in the 15th festival and we did well at that time. We concentrated a great deal of effort on the films we brought to the festival in hopes of a good rating. [end recording]

[Announcer] Countries that have sent delegations to Minsk and soldiers in these countries are now going through complicated experiences. The festival will help them overcome such difficulties more easily. Cho Chi-kun does not doubt this.

[Begin Cho recording] We are engaged in a variety of projects aimed at strengthening combat capabilities in close ties with the Soviet Army. This year alone, the Soviet Pacific Fleet visited our country and our country's naval flotillas also visited the Soviet Union, furthering the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries. We will do our best to consolidate and strengthen the friendly relations between the armies even further.

As hoped for by us and the Soviet Army, everything will go fine. [end recording]

Japanese Culture Week Celebrated in Moscow

Lukyanov Meets Parliamentarians

LD2109170690 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Anatoliy Lukyanov today met in the Kremlin with a group of deputies of the Japanese parliament, members of the Liberal Democratic Party, visiting Moscow on the occasion of the week-long festival of Japanese culture.

Lukyanov wished success to the festival and expressed confidence that it would facilitate deeper mutual understanding between the peoples of the two neighbouring countries.

Participants in the meeting expressed satisfaction with the strengthening of positive tendencies in relations between the Soviet (Union) and Japan and greeted the appearance of preconditions for taking these relations to a higher level.

It was stressed that President Mikhail Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Japan will mark a major turn in relations between the two countries. Preparations for the visit call for considerable creative efforts by both sides.

It was noted that Soviet and Japanese parliamentarians will make their contribution to the process.

The meeting, attended by the Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Edamuro Sumio, was held in an open and well-meaning atmosphere.

Lukyanov Interviewed

LD2209205390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent S. Rybin, including brief interview with A. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, in Moscow on 22 September; from the "Vremya" newscast—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] A Japanese culture week opened in Moscow today.

[Rybin] [passage omitted] The Japanese appear to believe the week to be an event of great importance, that really could signal the beginning of a new stage in our relations. Of the 550 people in the delegation, 55 are parliamentary deputies, and all of these are from the ruling party.

[Lukyanov] I have already met the MP's and we have spoken about everything in very great detail.

[Rybin] Do you think today's festival has been a success?

[Lukyanov] I believe this is the start of the festival and I believe it most certainly will succeed, because straight away we have a very good atmosphere and mutual understanding. And I believe there is some sort of spiritual intimacy.

[Rybin] It was made known today that the Japanese delegation had donated one million disposable syringes to the Ogonek Anti-AIDS Fund, and that a Japanese-Soviet Art and Technology University will open in Moscow in April.

Gorbachev's Upcoming Visit Noted

OW2309063790 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met a group of Japanese parliamentarians from Japan's Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] in the Kremlin on 21 September. They are visiting the Soviet Union on the occasion of Japanese Cultural Week, which is being held in Moscow. Chairman Lukyanov, in his meeting with the LDP delegation, wished success to Japanese Cultural Week. At the same time, he expressed his firm belief that Japanese Cultural Week would deepen mutual understanding of both countries. Moreover, while expressing their satisfaction with the fact that positive tendencies are growing stronger in Soviet-Japanese relations, both sides welcomed preconditions that will increase improvement of bilateral ties.

In this connection, the meeting stressed that it is necessary to make President Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Japan a significant turning point, and that both countries need to exert great, creative efforts in paving the way for the visit. Both sides also pointed out that each parliamentarian from the two countries has a mission to contribute to the process.

The meeting, attended by Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Edamura, was held in frank and friendly atmosphere.

The Japanese delegation also met members of the Supreme Soviet's committee on international issues.

Bilateral Ties Viewed

OW2209090990 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report by Tokyo correspondent (Kudrin)]

[Text] Japanese culture week in the Soviet Union will be held as part of the program to activate and promote Soviet-Japanese relations as proposed by Shintaro Abe, former general secretary of the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party, at his talks with President Gorbachev during his visit to the Soviet Union last January.

Included in the program proposed by Mr. Abe are a series of measures aimed at expanding economic, cultural, and other bilateral relations such as youth exchanges between our two nations. For example, the program for expanding youth exchanges includes a plan to invite around 1,000 Soviet young men and women to visit Japan under the theme of Soviet-Japanese Contact 1990. Moreover, as an example for carrying out this program, grand Japan culture week activities will be held in Moscow.

During Japanese culture week, exhibitions of Japanese traditional paintings and calligraphic works will be held. Moreover, Muscovites will have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the history, customs, and traditions of the Japanese people. They will be able to participate in the famous tea ceremony, watch a Kabuki play, and enjoy Japanese popular ballads sung by well-known singers. They will also be able to learn about the modern life of the Japanese people at the Youth Palace.

Moreover, "Under the Aurora"—a movie jointly produced by Soviet and Japanese filmmakers and that successfully premiered recently in Tokyo—will be shown during Japanese culture week. In addition, a fashion show of dresses designed by Hanae Mori especially for Japanese culture week will be held, and it certainly will arouse great interest among Soviet women. An exhibition of toys will be held for children. One of the major highlights of Japanese culture week will be a fireworks exhibition.

Toshio Yamaguchi, a member of the House of Representatives and one of the sponsors of the Japanese culture week, was interviewed. Concerning the upcoming Japanese culture week activities, Yamaguchi said:

A delegation headed by former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe visited the Soviet Union and met with President Gorbachev last January. The delegation also held talks with Aleksandr Yakovlev, a member of the CPSU Politburo at that time, on various issues pending between Japan and the Soviet Union. At these talks, delegation leader Abe made various proposals for youth, economic, and cultural exchanges.

As part of the youth exchange program, we have agreed to invite 1,000 Soviet youths to visit Japan under the theme of Japanese-Soviet Contact 1990, and the first group has already made an inspection tour of Tokyo. Foreign Minister Shevardnadze has visited Japan to exchange views on various issues, including the territorial issue. Meanwhile, views have been exchanged between our two governments on promoting economic exchanges.

As far as we civilians are concerned, we would like to promote exchanges that are not restricted to exchanges at the political or government levels. In an attempt to arouse interest in Japan among all Soviet people through contacts with Japanese culture so that a large-scale Soviet culture week will also be held in Japan during President Gorbachev's scheduled visit next year, we have decided to hold Japan culture week activities in the Youth Palace area.

Despite the fact that Japan and the Soviet Union are neighboring countries, it is regrettable that we now have the most intricate bilateral relations in the world. As a result, not only the Soviet Union has troubles, but Japan also has troubles. At any rate, while hoping for more exchanges in the political and diplomatic fields, and also cherishing contacts through which the Soviet and Japanese peoples can truly and frankly exchange their views, we have invited the very best talented people, well-versed in Japanese arts and culture, to participate in Japanese culture week activities that will last for six days, mainly in Moscow. In particular, when the famous Tokyo fireworks demonstration is held, the sky over Moscow will be beautifully colored with thousands of fireworks from Japan.

I would like to invite all of you to visit Moscow on 22 September, and I hope that the weather will be fine on 22 September to symbolize the friendship between Japan and the Soviet Union, and that the night will turn out to be excellent, Yamaguchi stated.

Said To Help Better Ties

OW2409060590 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Commentary by Fedorov]

[Text] Japanese culture week will start in Moscow on 22 September. A 500-member Japanese delegation is in Moscow for the event. More than 50 parliamentarians are included in the delegation. Japanese culture week is part of an eight-item plan aimed at activating Soviet-Japanese relations. Former Foreign Minister Abe, who is a member of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], proposed the plan during his meeting with President Gorbachev in January this year. In this connection, Moscow Radio commentator Fedorov writes:

Promoting people-to-people diplomacy through cultural, humanitarian, and trade relations will help develop political dialogue. People-to-people exchanges have helped solve complicated relations between countries in the past. It appears the time is now ripe for the Soviet Union and Japan to promote such people-to-people diplomacy in their relations. Although 45 years have passed since the end of World War II, the Soviet Union and Japan still have not signed a peace treaty. The so-called northern territories issue has become an insurmountable obstacle in the way of signing a peace treaty. The essence of the problem lies in the fact that Japan has continued to demand the return of the four southern Kuril Islands since the end of World War II.

The northern territories problem was useful to both the East and West camps when global confrontation determined world politics, and both the Soviet Union and Japan bore the brunt of criticisms. In other words, the northern territories issue was a sure way to create enemy images. The issue provided Japan with the excuse to talk about Soviet territorial expansionism. The Soviet Union, for its part, repeatedly referred to a revival of Japanese militarism. Soon after the end of the cold war era, the northern territories issue changed its characteristics from a propaganda tool to an obstacle seriously hindering improvement of Soviet-Japanese relations. Both countries have also taken this issue onto the ideological field. How can we get out of such a complicated situation?

A prominent Soviet politician, Yakovlev, proposed a third way when he visited Japan in November 1989. The third way has become the first step toward solving the northern territories issue. In January 1991, former Foreign Minister Abe of the LDP visited the Soviet Union and proposed a plan which is similar to the third way. Moreover, Shin Kanemaru, member of the LDP, has proposed that the southern Kuril Islands be gradually returned to Japan. Boris Yeltsin, chairman of Russian Republic which has jurisdiction over the southern Kuril Islands, has also advocated a gradual solution to the issue. On the other hand, Japanese culture week is proof that both countries are interested in building a firm bilateral relationship. It seems that solving the remaining complicated problems will become easier under such circumstances.

Japanese Mission Collects Soldiers' Remains

OW2309120390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin, Soviet Union, Sept. 23 KYODO—A Japanese Government mission returned to this provincial capital Sunday after collecting the remains of 23 Japanese soldiers killed in the former Japanese territory During World War II.

The 10-member delegation held a memorial service in Smirnykh in central Sakhalin after receiving the remains from authorities there.

The mission also received helmets, combat boots, canteens, and mess kits that had belonged to Japanese soldiers.

The group also visited Pobedino, the scene of the fiercest battles between the Japanese and Soviet armies.

Some 500 Japanese soldiers were killed on Sakhalin in fighting between August 9-17, 1945, Japanese Government officials said. About 200 Japanese died in the battle of Pobedino.

The southern half of Sakhalin was Japanese territory until the end of the war and there were some 390,000 Japanese residents and 19,000 Japanese troops, along with some 60,000 Koreans taken there by Japanese authorities.

The government-sponsored mission, the first of its kind, arrived in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk on September 18 for an eight-day visit.

Japanese Parliamentary Delegation Visits

Meets With Falin

LD2209171690 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 22 Sep 90

[text] Moscow September 22 TASS—Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Valentin Falin received today a delegation of Japanese members of Parliament representing the Liberal Democratic Party, which is led by Keizo Obuchi.

They discussed topical problems of world development and Soviet-Japenese relations. The conversation, in which Japanese ambassador to the USSR Sumio Edamura took part, was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere. Official Calls for Concessions With Japan

Calls for Concessions

OW2309141390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1349 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 23 KYODO—A Soviet Presidential Council member Sunday called for mutual concessions between the Soviet Union and Japan over a bilateral territorial dispute.

Yevgeniy M. Primakov said the Soviet Union will not make any unilateral concession to Japan over the territorial dispute when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visits Japan next April.

Primakov made the remarks during a speech at a symposium on Russo-Japanese relations.

Primakov, who has considerable influence on Soviet policy toward Japan, said Gorbachev will table several proposals on the territorial issue when he visits Tokyo and that Japan will choose the one it finds the most acceptable.

Former Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi, who is leading a mission from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, told the symposium he expects a historic agreement on the territorial issue will be reached when Gorbachev visits Japan.

Japan is demanding the return of four islands off eastern Hokkaido known collectively as Japan's northern territories. The Soviets occupied the islands at the end of World War II.

Mongolian Party Leaders Said 'Under Observation'

LD2109171790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0849 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 Sep (TASS)—Almost since the first days of the existence of the Mongolian Democratic Union (MDU) and the Mongolian Democratic Party (MDP), their leaders have been under observation. This was reported to the Montsame Agency today by D. Enhbator, a deputy to the People's Great Hural. According to Enhbator, this was admitted by Major General B. Tsiyregdzen, chief of the main directorate of State Security of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR].

He spoke to the special commission to look into the activities of the security services, which was formed at the request of the deputies to the MPR People's Great Hural from the new parties and political movements. The leader of the directorate reported that the telephones of S. Dzorig, chief coordinator of the MDU, and E. Bat-Uul, leader of the MDP, had been tapped. They had been shadowed, and agents were introduced into the bodies of the new movements.

The secret observation was stopped in April, after the emergency congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, because the information gathered had been sent to the leadership of the MPRP, which resigned at the congress, said B. Tsiyregdzen.

D. Enhbator added the clarification that other new political forces were not subjected to this shadowing by the security bodies.

The commission to look into the activities of the security services includes, in addition to deputies to the supreme body of state power, specialists from the special supervision department of the MPR Procuracy. The results of its work are to be reported to the session of the Lesser Hural, which opens on 24 September.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Reports, Commentaries on Cambodian Settlement

U.S., Vietnamese Meeting Eyed

OW2309113090 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Commentary by station commentator Lebedev; from the "Asian Affairs" program]

[Text] The latest meeting in New York between delegations led by the U.S. assistant secretary of state and the Vietnamese vice foreign minister was the third such meeting. Like the previous two meetings, the questions of bilateral relations and mediation of the Cambodia issue were studied. We believe the meeting paid greater attention to the latter question because the tense situation in Cambodia has not only poisoned the political climate in Southeast Asia, but also the whole world. Has the situation in Cambodia improved? We can be completely positive and say that it has improved. It has improved largely because the United States has changed its attitude toward the Cambodian conflict. I am referring to remarks by the U.S. secretary of state that Washington no longer recognizes the Cambodian opposition factions' tripartite coalition government as the legitimate Cambodian deputy to the United Nations if that coalition government includes Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot elements. The U.S. decision to begin direct talks with Phnom Penh is of special significance for promoting mediation of the Cambodian situation. Therefore, we should also point out the plan drawn up by the five permanent member nations of the UN Security Council on all-around mediation of the situation in Cambodia. We now face the questions of an immediate cessation of military action in Cambodia and of a deployment of UN organizations there. The contacts between the United States and Vietnam have played an important role in this aspect because, obviously, Vietnam can have an important influence on the normalization of the Cambodian situation.

Judging from statements made by the U.S. and Vietnamese sides, another meeting will be held. The U.S.-Vietnamese dialogue will continue because it creates opportunities for developing economic cooperation between the two countries. NEWSWEEK recently said: U.S. businessmen are particularly interested in the vast Vietnamese consumer market. In short, the logic of development of international relations calls for seeking approaches to setting up and normalizing contacts, and not a continuing estrangement between the United States and Vietnam.

Lukyanov Meets Cambodian Official

PM2409103790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[TASS "Official Report"]

[Text] On 20 September A.I. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met with Heng Samrin, chairman of the Cambodian Council of State and general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, who is on vacation in the USSR.

During the friendly conversation there was an exchange of information on the situation in the Soviet Union and Cambodia and satisfaction was expressed at the current level of cooperation between the two countries.

A great deal of attention was paid to questions of the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

A.I. Lukyanov and Heng Samrin confirmed the resolve of the USSR and the State of Cambodia to coordinate their efforts and continue to act vigorously in the sphere of a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the interests of the Cambodian people and the cause of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Prospects for Peace Assessed

BK2409043790 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Commentary by Viktor Valentinov]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the State of Cambodia have agreed that it is necessary to further seek a solution to the Cambodian conflict. Recently in Moscow, Comrade Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the Soviet Parliament, and Comrade Heng Samrin, leader of the State of Cambodia, clearly spelled out their common goal that responds to the Cambodian people's interests and to peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia. Comrade Viktor Valentinov, our Moscow radio observer, writes:

At present, Cambodia is in a period of responsibility for its own history. The joint step taken by the warring Cambodian factions and the international community has fixed the way toward withdrawing Cambodia from the protracted civil war. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], namely the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Britain, and France, have discussed the framework for seeking a political solution for the Cambodian problem under UN supervision. This plan has been supported by the four Cambodian factions at their meeting in Jakarta as a basis for seeking a solution to their conflict. By reaching this agreement, the Cambodian parties have made the first step forward. Not only have they agreed on the formation of the Supreme National Council [SNC], but they have formed it.

The first SNC meeting was held in Bangkok. Although this meeting did not achieve any good results, it clearly shows that the Cambodian groups are capable of holding constructive dialogue.

Each step toward restoring peace in Cambodia has been made with difficulty. This is why, despite the success in Jakarta, one cannot expect that there will be no problems in the future. Differences still exist among the parties concerned. However, I am convinced that each difficult step [words indistinct].

I think that in such a condition, more vigorous diplomatic activities agreeable to all parties are needed to move toward the solution. The agreement defined in the documents of the five UNSC permanent members in connection with the outcome of the Jakarta meeting has been mentioned in the recent resolution of the five UNSC permanent members.

As always, the Soviet Union still adheres to the policy of having close relations with the Governments of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos and with the UNSC member countries, particularly the United States and China. The Soviet Union is ready to have contacts with the Cambodian resistance leader. Soviet Foreign Minister Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze has not rejected the possibilies for future meeting with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Meanwhile, the State of Cambodia has begun direct contacts with the U.S. Government and China has focused on normalizing relations with Vietnam.

I would like to mention especially the activities of the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, namely France and Indonesia, which are supported by the Soviet Union. It is thanks to these countries' policies that have brought about the successful Jakarta meeting of the Cambodian groups.

Although Samdech Sihanouk has taken steps toward setbacks, the diplomatic success in Paris and Jakarta has clearly showed that if all parties concerned really pay attention to restoring peace in Cambodia, peace will certainly be achieved.

Ties With Cambodia Discussed

PM2409154790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Friendly Conversation"]

[Text] A.I. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met 20 September with Heng Samrin, chairman of the Cambodian State Council and general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [CPRP] Central Committee, who is vacationing in the USSR.

During a friendly conversation they exchanged information on the situation in the Soviet Union and Cambodia and expressed satisfaction at the level of cooperation that has been achieved between the two countries.

A great deal of attention was devoted to questions of a Cambodian settlement. It was noted that the formation of the Cambodian Supreme National Council and the Cambodian sides' acceptance of the outline agreement worked out by the permanent members of the UN Security Council as the basis for an all-embracing settlement of the conflict has brought the quest for a solution to the Cambodian problem to its final phase. Further practical steps are now needed to develop the national reconciliation process, to ensure above all the speediest cease-fire, and to create the requisite conditions for general elections in Cambodia under UN supervision, whereby this country's people will determine their political future.

A.I. Lukyanov and Heng Samrin confirmed the determination shared by the USSR and the State of Cambodia to coordinate their efforts in further active pursuit of a peaceful solution to the conflict in the interests of the Cambodian people and the cause of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Chan Lekkha [name as transliterated], Cambodian charge d'affaires (name and title as received) ad interim in the USSR, was present during the conversation.

Singapore's Prime Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD2309131190 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Lee Kuan Yew arrived in Moscow for an official visit today at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport decked with the national flags of Singapore and the USSR he was welcomed by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov and other officials.

Trade Cooperation Talks Held With Singapore

PM2409152790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] The first sitting of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Singapore Mixed Economic Commission on the Development of Trade, Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow 19-20 September.

The Soviet and Singapore delegations were led by V.F. Mordvinov, USSR deputy minister of foreign economic ties, and Mah Bow Tan, Singapore minister of state for trade and industry, respectively.

Joseph Francis Conceicao, Singapore ambassador to the USSR [title as published], was present during the signing of the documents.

Near East & South Asia

Soviet Officials Hold Talks on Persian Gulf

Yazov Rules Out 'Interference'

LD2209194890 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov has spoken against a military solution of the crisis in the Persian Gulf. In an interview with the Italian paper STAMPA he said civilians would become the first victims of hostilities.

Replying to a question about the possibility of an American attack on Iraq, he said he did not rule it out. The United States has concentrated some 170,000 servicemen, 1,000 planes, and 500 tanks in Saudi Arabia. The defense minister said the force is enough for an attack. Dmitriy Yazov ruled out the possibility of Soviet military interference in the Gulf crisis.

Solovyev on U.S. Deployment

LD2109214690 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Commentary by Colonel Vadim Solovyev—read by announcer]

[Text] We've repeatedly spoken of Soviet official and public reaction to developments in the Persian Gulf. To provide a broader spectrum of opinion we'll look at how the Soviet military regard the situation. Notes about that by our military affairs analyst Colonel Vadim Solovyev:

One General Vladimir Lobov, who is the chief of staff of the combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty countries has shared his fears for the first time in public. He condemned Iraq's aggression, but at the same time remarked that American troops were being massed only 200 km from the Soviet borders.

Similar apprehensions have been voiced in Soviet parliament by lawmakers representing the Army.

Fears like this are manifested quiet often, as I can judge from meetings and contacts with representatives of the major staffs responsible for this country's strategic defense. What does this anxiety rest on?

To begin with, never since the Second World War has the United States carried out such a massive airlift of troops and hardware within such brief spells. The deployment of U.S. Armed Forces has involved the NATO allies. The question naturally arises whether this kind of a situation will lead to significant expansion of NATO's southern flank. What's more, the United States has for years pressed for setting up military bases in Saudi Arabia. About 100,000 American servicemen have been deployed there and by mid-October up to 250,000 troops are expected to be backed up by naval vessels with missiles and strike aircraft.

How will lall this affect the East-West strategic balance? Won't the agreements planned to be signed in Vienna to mutually reduce troops and conventional arms be impaired? These are pertinent questions. When we deal with unpredictable consequences of Iraq's aggressions one of the aspects, perhaps the most important one for Army professionals, is how this can affect the Soviet Union's security. When the bow is drawn there may be errors.

There is every indication that such anxiety is shared by this country's political leadership too. At the Helsinki summit, Soviet president has been promised that the U.S. troops will be withdrawn from the Persian Gulf zone once the situation has been stabilized there. Let us hope that the fears of the Soviet military will prove wrong.

Palestinian Officials Arrive for Gulf Talks

Belonogov Meets PLO Officials

LD2109160690 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Aleksandr Belonogov received today members of the PLO Executive Committee M. 'Abbas and Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, who arrived here to attend a regular meeting of the Soviet-Palestinian Middle East Committee.

The sides exchanged views on ways to settle the Gulf crisis politically and noted that the Arab nations should take more vigorous steps towards this end. They went on record for practical measures to achieve an early settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of corresponding U.N. resolutions.

PLO Leader on Israeli Ties

LD2109152790 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Leonid Timofeyev and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—"We now need to double efforts in the quest for a peaceful solution to the Gulf conflict because another variant poses a threat not only to the region but also the entire world," a Palestine Liberation Organisation Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said at a news conference here today.

He heads a Palestinian delegation that held negotiations at the USSR Foreign Ministry. The talks focused on the Gulf crisis caused by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

According to 'Abd-Rabbuh, there is a chance to settle the conflict within the Arab framework with the assistance of the United Nations Organisation. He said the PLO had a plan to set up the so-called committee of Arab sages to comprise heads of several Arab states of various orientation. This committee would exert efforts to find a political solution to the crisis.

'Abd-Rabbuh said the PLO rejected large-scale U.S. interference in the region. He believes that Americans' true aim is to establish dominance over the region's natural wealth.

The PLO calls upon all states to take a broader look at the problems of the Middle East, 'Abd-Rabbuh said. He does not think that the settlement of the Gulf crisis should be delayed until the Palestinian problem is solved.

The PLO believes that an international conference on the Middle East settlement would be an important element to facilitate the solution of all of the region's problems. He pointed out that the PLO would carry on its efforts in contact with various parties to find ways to achieve a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

Assessing prospects for the development of Soviet-Israeli relations, 'Abd-Rabbuh said: "We heard assurances in Moscow that diplomatic relations with Israel will not be restored until an international conference on the Middle East is convened."

He noted furthermore that there were no disagreements between the PLO and the USSR on ways to solve the Palestinian problem and convene a conference.

'Abd-Rabbuh praised the Soviet Union's approach regarding the need to remove a military variant for defusing the crisis. "This approach by the Soviet Union stems from the Helsinki Soviet-U.S. summit and is an important element promoting a political settlement," 'Abd-Rabbuh said.

Maritime Ministry Denies Shipping U.S. Equipment

PM2109160790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "USSR Not Shipping U.S. Equipment"]

[Text] On Tuesday REUTER reported that on 17 September a U.S. warship stopped the Soviet container ship Petr Masherov for inspection in the northern Red Sea. The USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet confirmed that fact in conversation with our correspondent and pointed out that in the specific conditions to stop and inspect the Soviet ship was a legal action.

REUTER sent the following report from Brussels 18 September: "In a remarkable gesture of cooperation in the post-cold war period, the Soviet Union has agreed to let the United States use a large transport ship for the shipment of U.S. military equipment to the Persian Gulf, NATO circles announced on Tuesday." This report was also broadcast on Soviet television 19 September. However, our source at the USSR Foreign Ministry stated: "The information quoted in the REUTER report does not correspond to the facts."

Here is another REUTER report—this time from Moscow. It concerns the meeting at the USSR KGB between U.S. mass media leaders and V. Kryuchkov. During the meeting journalists asked about the position of our specialists in Iraq. The REUTER report indicated that the KGB leader placed the responsibility for their fate on Iraq.

The KGB press center informed us: "The Soviet specialists' working conditions," Kryuchkov indicated, "are difficult. They are now doing virtually no work. We are concerned for their safety. The Iraqi side is responsible for their life and health."

'Arab Thought' Forum Holds News Conference

LD2409142290 Moscow TASS in English 1409 GMT 24 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—Ibrahim Dakkak, chairman of the public organisation "Forum of Arab Thought," told a news conference today that the Palestinian people will continue the struggle until it achieves its goal—the creation of an independent state.

Dakkak heads a Palestinian delegation from Israel-occupied Arab territories, visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

During their stay in the USSR, members of the delegation met with representatives of Soviet public organisations, scientific and educational establishment.

They told Soviet people about the situation on occupied territories, the position of the Palestinian people and its struggle for freedom. Full understanding about the need for the quest for political solutions to terminate Israeli occupation and to ensure the Palestinian Arab people's right for self-determination and statehood was expressed at the meetings.

As regards the Middle East situation, Dakkak said that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait had a negative effect on the peace process in the region. He said that the Palestinians are against the presence of U.S. troops in the Middle East. But if the United States attempt to resolve the Iraqi-Kuwaiti problem, it could also try to resolve the Palestinian problem, Dakkak said.

In conclusion, Dakkak spoke highly of the Soviet Union's stand in supporting the Palestinian people's struggle for independence.

Further Reportage on Soviet Citizens in Iraq

Welfare of Citizens Clarified

PM2109214590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Yu. Stroyev: "How Are Our People in Iraq?"—first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] "How much can be read about the fate of Americans, Japanese, French, and so forth in Iraq? Is it really impossible to carry even a word or two about the Soviet citizens who are there? This is already the second month without letters from my husband. Mine obviously don't reach there either. Don't keep mum, explain what is happening to our people.

"T.V. Tripak, village of Belikovka, Zhitomir Oblast."

Taisiya Vladimirovna is not the only person to ask our editorial office for information about the fate of Soviet specialists working in Iraq. As we have learned, similar letters are received by the the government and the Foreign Ministry and Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR. We asked Nikolay Aleksandrovich Mishunkin, deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Main Personnel Administration to answer them.

"We understand and share Soviet people's anxiety about their loved ones in Iraq," N.A. Mishunkin said. "And for that reason pay attention to every single letter and telegram received.

"Thus, in answer a reply is ready for dispatch to N.I. Kudinova from Rostov Oblast. She has been anxious about her son, who, as we ascertained, is getting ready to leave and will be home in two to three weeks. Or another case. N.M. Andreyeva from Kiev, the wife of an oil worker, asked about the fate of her husband and when he would return. We have just received a telex from Baghdad. It says that P.V. Andreyev has been informed of his family's anxiety and everything now hinges upon his own decision.

"We get very many letters complaining that there has been no news from relatives in Iraq for two months now. Indeed, at the start of the conflict, when Aeroflot was shut down, we did have difficulties. Now mail delivery has been established. Our planes with Soviet citizens and mail aboard touch down in Moscow twice a week—Mondays and Fridays.

"All children—274 boys and girls—and 542 women have returned home from Iraq to date. More than 1,500 people in all have left Iraq. Around 5,000 Soviet specialists continue to work at civil installations. But measures to more than halve their number in stages have already been drawn up. Even as I speak around 1,000 people are waiting for exit documents.

"We do not, of course, oversimplify the situation in Iraq in any way. A Soviet minibus was fired on last month and one person injured. Since then not a single Soviet person has been hurt, although there is information that there have been manifestations of hostility by certain groups in the south of Iraq. At the same time the Iraqi authorities have pledged guarantee Soviet people's safety."

Return of Specialists Sought

LD2209094990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] [Announcer Yevgeniy Grachev] We would like to devote this "Mayak Panorama" news bulletin to serious matters and speak about the situation in the Persian Gulf. The fact is that in my time I worked for several years as the USSR Gosteleradio's correspondent in the Near East, and here seated alongside me is my collocutor Vadim Kukushkin who worked directly in Iraq. Naturally, the situation that has arisen in that region is of great concern to all of us, and here I would like to note that today's pronouncement by Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council that the main battle lies ahead puts one very much on one's guard. In this connection it is probably essential to touch on Soviet-Iraqi relations. Vadim, what are your thoughts on this?

[Kukushkin] Well, you know, I would not like to magnify the situation but judging by the news being received the situation is being exacerbated. Suffice it to recall the holding of landing maneuvers by U.S. troops that are under way in Oman in, well, I would say, a situation that is as close as possible to that in Kuwait. Another alarming thing is that a number of countries are already handing over, if one can put it this way, the right to conduct combat actions to the control of American generals. This has already been done by Britain. They may thereby be drawn into military actions without suspecting it. What, too, is the significance of the reports from Saudi Arabia that it is ready to repulse possible aggression even if chemical weapons are used? However, despite the attempts to resolve all the problems by peaceful means my view is that the sides are in practice moving toward war.

[Grachev] You know, in this situation I think, if one may put it so, that the balance of losses and gains on the economic scales appears to be a negative one for the Soviet Union despite the optimistic prediction by our foreign policy department. Certainly, the lines of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Iraq and the USSR sound rather out of tune. I mean out of tune with the specific present-day situation. After all, the preamble of the document says that the sides will pursue a peace-loving foreign policy and one that is true to the goals and principles of the UN Charter.

[Kukushkin] It will be apt here to note too that despite the Soviet Union's mediation actions there is nevertheless some duality in the pursuance of our foreign policy. I think that now, in order to confirm its intention of becoming part of the civilized world community and to maintain its reputation as a state that has cast the cold war on to the garbage heap of history, the USSR would need immediately to recall all its specialists from Iraq, since their presence in that country appears somewhat out of accord with Soviet support for the UN resolutions. In respect of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation I think that it nevertheless needs to be suspended at the same time, since Iraq has violated Articles 7 and 10 of this document.

[Grachev] Vadim, what have you to say about the Soviet specialists? After all it is possible to recall not only the military ones—or rather, it is possible to recall just the military ones and leave the civilians who are involved in the creation of purely economic facilities.

[Kukushkin] Here one also has a two-fold situation. After all, it is no secret for anyone that during the period of military actions any installation, whether it be of an economic or a military nature, is a target for enemy attack, inasmuch as it will disrupt the infrastructure of the opposite side. There is still a dangerous situation here that during the waging of military actions the Soviet specialists could become casualties, and that also is no secret for anyone. The reason for this is that they are located directly at the installations, whether it be the Tammuz air base or a thermal power station in the countryside. This is not to mention the oilfields in the south of Iraq. Incidentally, it is over the north Rumaylah oilfields, where our specialists are employed, that the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait has occurred.

[Grachev] I think, however, that the Russian parliament has already been taking steps in this direction. According to my information the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet's Committee on International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations issued a statement that unambiguously notes that it is now unacceptable and immoral to maintain any contacts with the aggressor. Let us hope that the union government will also take some more decisive actions.

[Kukushkin] Well, I think this should be concerned above all with the urgent evacuation of all Soviet specialists from the zone of the conflict.

[Grachev] Vadim, thank you for your frank and comprehensive comment.

Kuwaiti Finance Minister Discusses Soviet Role

LD2109211690 Moscow TASS in International Service in Russian 1658 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by TASS correspondent Dmitriy Voskoboynikov]

[Text] London, 21 Sep (TASS)—The USSR's activities in connection with resolving the crisis in the Persian Gulf region have been given a high appraisal by Shaykh 'Ali al Khalifa al-'Adhbi, the Kuwaiti finance minister. Answering a TASS correspondent's question, the minister, who today met a group of foreign journalists in the British capital, declared: "The Soviet Union, condemned from the beginning Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and then actively participated in the United Nation's work on drawing up the well-known resolution."

The talks between USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush confirm that the two great powers as well as the other permanent members of the UN Security Council are coming out in favor of strict observation of the norms of international law, the Kuwaiti minister stressed.

Saudi Minister Interviewed on Recent Events

LD2209171890 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1420 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report from the "International Panorama" program presented by announcer Igor Fesunenko, including interview with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, by correspondent F. Seyful Mulyukov in Moscow; date not given—recorded; comments by al-Faysal in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] [Fesunenko] Well comrades! Again this week the Persian Gulf and the situation surrounding it have remained the main focus of attention of statesmen, diplomats, journalists of course, and millions of people—ordinary people—whose fates, directly or obliquely, are linked with the tragedy unfolding in this zone, in this region of sadness and tears.

If one attempts to briefly summarize the events of recent days, then one cannot avoid the formula: the ring of the blockade is drawing tighter. Indeed, the ring of the blockade is drawing tighter around Iraq, which continues to persist in its aggressiveness. The war of nerves is becoming ever more fierce and ever more irreconcilable, and the first victim in this was has already fallen—Michael Dugan, U.S. general—about which Boris Kalyagin will talk to us in more detail a little later.

Critical situations, similar to what is now evolving around the Persian Gulf, can sometimes accelerate the pace of history. For decades the question of restoring diplomatic relations between our country and Saudi Arabia has been imminent, but could in no way be resolved—and here, literally several weeks of this crisis have shifted this problem from its standstill.

This week Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi Arabian foreign minister, visited Moscow. He held talks with Soviet leaders, was received by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, and passed on a personal message from King Fahd to him. As a result an accord on the restoration of full diplomatic relations between our countries was reached. Farid Seyful Mulyukov, my colleague, has met and talked with the guest from Saudi Arabia. This is what he told International Panorama.

[Begin al-Faysal recording] Recently the leaders of our countries have taken important steps toward the normalization and development of relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, which were established back in 1926. Intensive dialogue between us has ended with a historic event—the restoration of full diplomatic relations. Both Riyadh and Moscow have agreed to exchange embassies in the very near future.

During my meeting with USSR President Gorbachev, Sa'ud al-Faysal says, it was emphasized that this step is of significant importance—not only within the framework of bilateral relations, but also with regard to the strengthening of peace and stabilization throughout the whole world, and above all in our region, which is now going through an exceedingly acute crisis. I want to underline that Saudi Arabia does not intend to limit itself to merely official relations with the Soviet Union. We intend to develop large-scale cooperation in all fields, including the economic sphere, and to energetically cooperate in the interests of the settlement of regional conflicts and the improvement of the international situation.

The policy of new thinking that the Soviet leadership is promulgating has been understood in our country, too. Riyadh is also advocating active interaction with Moscow on all issues of Near East and world policy, and on the principles of freedom of choice, equality of rights, sovereignty, and a balance of interests. Our meetings in Moscow have shown that the Soviet leadership is demonstrating the same aspirations to deepen relations with Saudi Arabia.

The rapprochement of our countries, says Sa'ud al-Faysal, has coincided chronologically with the onerous conflict in the Persian Gulf region, caused by the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. The armed brigandage against our neighbor, and Baghdad's threats against Saudi Arabia and other countries of the region, have inflamed the whole atmosphere in the Near East and Middle East.

At the same time, this is a call for a new international order, renouncing violence and confrontation. The Soviet Union, together with the world community, has taken up a firm stance of condemnation of the aggression and has demanded the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of the legal government there. This stance was reconfirmed in the course of my talks with the Soviet leaders in Moscow. We studied the whole situation in the region and ways out of the crisis.

Saudi Arabia, concludes the minister, is for political, peaceful ways of settling the conflict. Well, the single resolution acceptable to us is the full implementation of the resolution of the Security Council and the cessation of Iraqi aggression. Only this can lead to establishing peace and stabilization in our region. [end recording]

TASS Reports Iraqi Minister Commits Suicide

LD2409092590 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 24 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev]

[Text] Abu Dhabi September 24 TASS—The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA today reported that Iraqi Planning Minister Tariq al-'Abdallah committed suicide in Baghdad.

According to the newspaper, the minister's sister, who was on her way to the United States for cancer treatment, was arrested at Baghdad Airport for an attempt to smuggle 1,000 U.S. dollars in her luggage.

In view of the fact that Tariq al-'Abdallah's sister, who received the money from him, was charged with smuggling, the planning minister shot himself following his discussion of the matter with Saddam Husayn.

Iraqi Opposition Activity, 'Upheavals' Noted

PM2209163990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 90 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On Situation in Persian Gulf"]

[Text] 22 Sep—Iraq has decided to expel from the country three U.S. diplomats and staffers in the apparatuses of the military attaches of the European Community countries, except for Portugal, and also two diplomats and staffers of the apparatus of the military attache of Egypt. At a meeting with journalists, British Prime Minister M. Thatcher, who is in Switzerland on a visit, described this step by Baghdad as "unjust." In response to the Iraqi action the Egyptian Government has decided to close the apparatus of the Iraqi military attache in Cairo. Two Iraqi diplomats have also been declared persona non grata.

The upheavals and disorders caused by the acute food shortage have overwhelmed the Northern regions of Iraq. According to the newspaper AL-WAFD at least 50 people have died in the past 10 days in clashes with troops sent to break up popular demonstrations. The upheavals began after the local authorities were unable to provide the population with even a minimum of essential food. The newspaper has also reported the activation of Kurdish resistance to the Husayn regime in the northern regions of Iraq.

In the past few days Iraqi opposition groupings have activated their efforts to create a united front. AL-WAFD notes that the leaders of the majority of organizations have already expressed their agreement in principle to unite the ranks of the anti-Saddam forces. It is expected that the "united opposition political front" will be proclaimed within the next week. Earlier the Arab press had reported that in Damascus representatives of the armed Kurdish opposition in Iraq, illegal left-wing parties, military dissatisfied with Husayn's regime, and opposition-minded Islamic groups had agreed on joint actions for the "physical removal" of the dictator and the subsequent creation of a "democratic Iraq."

According to refugees from Kuwait, the occupation authorities are stepping up their repressions against the local population. Iraqi soldiers are shooting 14 Kuwaitis for every occupier killed by the resistance forces. The well-known Kuwaiti artists 'Aisha Ibrahim, 'Ali al-Mufidi, and 'Abd al-Rahman al-Dwikhi have died at the invaders' hands.

According to a MENA report the number of refugees from Kuwait and Iraq who have crossed the Iraqi-Turkish border since the start of the Persian Gulf crisis is in excess of 50,000. Tens of thousands of people have gathered in special camps in the region of the Iraqi-Turkish border. They are suffering from lack of food and medical supplies. Cases of malaria, which could develop into a dangerous epidemic, have been noted among the refugees.

The Kuwaiti Government has decided to compensate the losses which Egyptian citizens who worked in Kuwait have incurred. THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE reports that $30 million has been earmarked to pay the wages of Egyptian workers for August and September. Before the start of the Iraqi aggression about 150,000 Egyptian citizens worked in Kuwait. Many of them were obliged to return home after Iraq's occupation.

Kuwaitis Register for Military Service in Riyadh

LD2309170990 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 23 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev]

[Text] Abu Dhabi September 23 TASS—The Kuwaiti Defence Ministry announced today the mobilisation to the army of the Kuwaitis in the age bracket from 21 to 35. The registration of volunteers will begin on September 29 in the Saudi cities of Riyadh, Dammam and Hafar al-Batin (name as received), as well as in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, the Sultanate of Oman, Qatar, Egypt and Syria.

French Troops Arriving in Saudi Arabia

LD2309124290 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] The first French helicopters attached to the Clemenceau are landing at the airport of Yanbu' in Saudi Arabia at this very moment. As you know, that is the first destination of the French troops which are later to be deployed at a still undetermined location.

Incidentally, 1,000 men are to leave Toulon today. That is expected to be the last contingent of French soldiers to leave for the Gulf on board (L'Esterelle), accompanied by two cargo vessels, the (Jirolata) and the (Casablanca).

Commentaries Review Persian Gulf Situation

Belonogov's Visit to Iran Eyed

NC2109195990 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Commentary by Yuriy Andreyev]

[Text] The visit to Tehran by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov ended on 20 September. Radio Moscow's Persian section analyst Yuriy Andreyev has written the following commentary on the outcome of this visit:

The extremely tense crisis in the Persian Gulf continues to be a headache for politicians in many of the world's capitals including Tehran and Moscow. Thus, the current Soviet-Iranian talks were largely devoted to the Near East problems.

During his three-day visit to Tehran, Aleksandr Belonogov discussed critical problems on the Persian Gulf situation with Iranian officials. According to Aleksandr Belonogov, it was necessary to immediately study the Persian Gulf situation with the officials of Iran—a country with great credibility in this part of the world.

The Soviet representative described the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq as a big strategic mistake. At the same time he pointed out that Moscow prefers a solution of the problem through political means. Belonogov pointed to the UN economic sanctions on Iraq as an example of a peaceful means to pressure the aggressor.

IRNA reports that Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ezi also pointed to the need to overcome the Persian Gulf crisis through peaceful means. But the Iranian side stressed that increasing concern is being expressed in Tehran on the increased military presence of the West and primarily of the United States in the Persian Gulf. Iranian diplomats told Belonogov that the presence of the forces of several countries on Saudi Arabian territory is unacceptable to Iran. Meanwhile, according to Mahmud Va'ezi, a unity of views between Iran and the Soviet Union is necessary to overcome the Persian Gulf crisis.

The two sides agreed to continue joint consultations on Near East problems. During the current talks, the situation of Soviet-Iranian relations, its outlooks and problems were also discussed. During this visit Belonogov met with Iran's Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Mohsen Nurbakhsh. The two sides discussed the implementation of a large-scale Soviet-Iranian economic cooperation program which was signed during 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Moscow. Mohsen Nurbakhsh described this meeting as a historic meeting which opened a new era in Soviet-Iranian relations. Iran's Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance especially pointed to the significance of the resumption of Iranian gas exports to the Soviet Union. He also spoke in favor of increased Iranian gas exports to the Soviet Union and through the Soviet Union to Europe. Belonogov, in turn, confirmed Moscow's interest in economic cooperation with Iran.

Thus the current visit was a new step toward the strengthening of the system of consultations on a state level which exists between Iran and the Soviet Union.

Citizens' Comments Noted

LD2109194190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "International Situation: Questions and Answers" program, presented by foreign political commentator Yuriy Isayev, with commentator Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Text] [Isayev] These days the editorial mailbag is rich in letters whose writers ask about the situation in the Persian Gulf. Many listeners resolutely condemn Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and express alarm and concern in connection with the concentration of the forces of the United States and its allies in the region. For example, labor and war veteran Boris Andreyevich Zhilkin from the village of Sredniy Raskhovets, Kursk oblast, writes: At present the military situation in the Persian Gulf region has become extremely heated. Evidently, Iraq is armed with modern weapons in sufficient quantities in order to commit an act of aggression. The question springs to mind: Who facilitated the arming of Iraq? Comrade Ivanyuk from Irkutsk begins his letter as follows: I do not approve of Iraq, no, but you will agree that one has a fairly poignant situation; one wants to ask who then are the judges? They are the United States which invaded Grenada and maintains its Guantanamo base in Cuba, Britain which took the Falklands from Argentina, and finally the USSR which for 10 years waged war in Afghanistan. Now they are all unanimously condemning aggressive Iraq, but they have all been at it. Well, each person indeed has his own opinion.

Let us try to get to the bottom of some of the questions we have been asked. In this we will be helped by my colleague, commentator Yevgeniy Grachev, who worked for some years as our correspondent in the Near East. Over to you, Yevgeniy.

[Grachev] You know, our time on the air will not suffice for us to go into everything, but we can analyze in quite some detail certain matters of principle.

Well, first, who was it that armed Iraq? Many listeners are now blaming the former Soviet leaders for everything. Indeed our country did supply weapons to Iraq and did so moreover in truly large quantities. Judge for yourself. In the period from 1982 to 1986 alone the Soviet Union sold Iraq various types of weaponry to the value of $14.3 billion. We do not possess any more recent data, and the aforementioned figures were obtained from western sources. As yet our military people are, one might say, not entering very enthusiastically into the age of glasnost. At any rate it is an impressive amount. If one is speaking in terms of units of weaponry, then once again from western figures Iraq is equipped with about 5,000 tanks and 7,000 armored personnel carriers. All this equipment is, of course, Soviet-produced. I do not mention here aircraft, missiles, combat ships, communication facilities, and engineering equipment. It is clear that over the many years of cooperation—and Iraq has been truly one of our major partners in the Near East in all spheres of activity including the economy and, although it may not be appropriate to mention it here, science and culture too—we have have been able to provide Iraq with very many weapons. You know, if we look even more closely at this problem, we shall see that many types of military equipment bear the brandmarks of the military concerns of many of the world's states. So it is not only our state that has armed Iraq. Here I in no way want to present black as white, and do not intend to shift on to anyone else's head the portion of the common blame that lies on our

[Isayev] I have another question in this connection, which stems quite logically, I think, from the whole course of events. Why, nevertheless, did Iraq attack Kuwait and annex that country, claiming that Kuwait had allegedly always been part of Iraqi territory?

[Grachev] Why did Iraq attack Kuwait? This is a question that is almost impossible to answer. In general one should say that the present conflict in the Near East was a complete surprise to everyone. No one is able to explain the attack of one Arab state against another. We have grown so accustomed to consider the Israeli-Arab confrontation as the heart of the conflict in the Near East. I don't know about other people, but during the first days of the conflict I sought the roots of it in Zionist intrigues. However, unable to find any such intrigues, I decided to look with new eyes at the nonstop wars and clashes of the past decade.

My conclusion turned out to be an unexpected one. The very idea of the Arab world becomes elusively vague, indeed to such an extent that one attention's is drawn, above all, to interests of the states themselves whose peoples speak Arabic and, moreover, to the contradictions that exist and are becoming more exacerbated between these states. Natural resources, above all oil, in present conditions, however strange it might be, are not only the source of multibillion incomes but almost the basis for tremendous social disproportions and imbalances. Elite groups and whole elite countries stand out, and this is all taking place against a background of an unusually high degree of militarization in the region. We have already spoken of the arms deliveries to Iraq, but, if we look at matters more broadly, we shall see that over the past decade or even two decades the United States, West Europe, and the Soviet Union have engaged in competitive trading in weaponry on the rich Near East markets. The present restrictive measures and monitoring of military exports are somewhat late. The full embargo on arms deliveries that might now be adopted will take a very long time to be reflected in the inclinations of various regimes to use military force.

[Isayev] Well, what about the claim that Kuwait was once part of Iraq?

[Grachev] You know, Yuriy Nikolayevich, Iraq was in its time part of the Ottoman Empire and Kuwait belonged to the same empire, but after the disintegration of the former empire a whole number of independent states arose on its territory, and the borders did not, of course, coincide fully with the territorial divisions that existed back during the time of the Turkish overlordship. Incidentally, Iraq has a whole number of problems from those times including ones that are not in its favor. As for empires that once existed, let us, say, recall the great Roman Empire and let us also imagine that one of the present European leaders suddenly began speaking about the borders of this or that country as they were in a certain century before Christ. Would this then be a basis for hostilies with the occupation and annexation of part of a neighboring state?

[Isayev] Well, of course not, and now is not an age when problems are to be solved by force of arms, even if such problems exist.

Region 'Extremely Heated'

LD2109194190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "International Situation: Questions and Answers" program, presented by foreign political commentator Yuriy Isayev, with commentator Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Text] [Isayev] These days the editorial mailbag is rich in letters whose writers ask about the situation in the Persian Gulf. Many listeners resolutely condemn Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and express alarm and concern in connection with the concentration of the forces of the United States and its allies in the region. For example, labor and war veteran Boris Andreyevich Zhilkin from the village of Sredniy Raskhovets, Kursk oblast, writes: At present the military situation in the Persian Gulf region has become extremely heated. Evidently, Iraq is armed with modern weapons in sufficient quantities in order to commit an act of aggression. The question springs to mind: Who facilitated the arming of Iraq? Comrade Ivanyuk from Irkutsk begins his letter as follows: I do not approve of Iraq, no, but you will agree that one has a fairly poignant situation; one wants to ask who then are the judges? They are the United States which invaded Grenada and maintains its Guantanamo base in Cuba, Britain which took the Falklands from Argentina, and finally the USSR which for 10 years waged war in Afghanistan. Now they are all unanimously condemning aggressive Iraq, but they have all been at it. Well, each person indeed has his own opinion.

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UAE 'Between Peace and War'

PM2409145190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 90 p 3

[Article by special correspondent A. Shumilin: "Between Peace and War"]

[Text] Abu Dhabi—The capital of the United Arab Emirates, from where our correspondent reports, is living between peace and war.

"True believers, let us cast aside fear! Allah is always on the side of justice. There is no need to fear, for Allah will punish the bloody murderer!"—saying this, the preacher in one of the main mosques in Abu Dhabi, the Emirian capital, noticeably raised his voice. Everything pointed to the fact that the chief purpose of his sermon was to reassure people.

The Friday prayers and sermon in the countries of the Arabian peninsula are not just a tradition, they are events. People prepare and wait for them, and during them assessments are frequently made of what has happened over the past week. Although the prayers are addressed to God and the sermon to man's soul, in recent weeks there has been no less politics in them than morality and ethics. And could it be otherwise in a country whose capital is the closest to Kuwait among the capitals of the other countries of the Arabian peninsula?—for they are separated only by the zone of Saudi oil terminals which attracted Saddam Husayn.

The shock of the first days and weeks of aggression has passed. But the apprehension and fear have not passed. They are nurtured by any step, by any maneuver by any of the opposing sides a few hundred kilometers away: the recent Iraqi regrouping of forces in Kuwait or the exercise involving combat firing by U.S. subunits on Saudi territory. The delicate balance of military power ensuring peace (or a lull) could be upset at any moment.

...A noise resembling explosions was heard in the Abu Dhabi region late last night. I rushed to the balcony of my hotel room. There were many curious people on other hotel balconies and in apartment blocks. No, they were not yet explosions. All seemed quiet. And the city continued to be iridiscent with the lights of the stupendous nighttime illuminations—the brightest on the entire Persian Gulf coast. Will Abu Dhabi really have to camouflage itself and extinguish its night lights?

TASS Reports on Foiled Coup Attempt in Sudan

LD2209082390 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 22 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Krutikhin]

[Text] Cairo September 22 TASS— A coup attempt was foiled in Sudan, the Egyptian AL-WAFD newspaper reports today.

A group of junior Nubian officer plotted to overthrow the ruling military regime led by General Umar al-Bashir, the AL-WAFD writes. The plot was uncovered. Twelve servicemen were executed, 78 arrested but six officers managed to flee.

The conspiracy has been the third attempt to topple al-Bashir after he seized power in June 1989.

Reportage on POW's in Afghanistan Continues

Talks with Mujahidin Planned

LD2109104490 Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondents Yuriy Kozmin and Pavel Ostrov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—Afghan mujahidins are ready for talks with Russia on the release of Soviet prisoners-of-war, Deputy Iona Andronov told the Russian Parliament today.

He said he had just returned from seven-week talks with mujahidin leaders, which he conducted on the instructions of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

"I brought a message from them, in which they express their readiness to send a delegation to Moscow for talks on the release of Soviet prisoners-of-war," Andronov said.

'Good News' for Families

LD2109214190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1926 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Remarks by Deputy Andronov, at the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, RSFSR, Supreme Soviet session on 21 September in the Kremlin in Moscow—recorded]

[Text] I shall be very brief. Alongside the unpleasant news you have reported I should like to provide a piece of good news, addressed to Yeltsin.

I have just arrived back from seven weeks of talks with the leaders of the Afghan mujahiddin on a commission from Boris Nikolayevich and I have their message for him in my hand, in which they report that they are prepared to send a delegation to Moscow for talks with Boris Nikolayevich on the liberation of Soviet prisoners of war. For the families of the POW's this is, I think, a great piece of news and I am sure that as soon as he [Yeltsin] is better he will, evidently, deal rapidly with this issue. That's all I wanted to tell you.

[Khasbulatov] Well, you see, that really is a piece of good news. The mujahiddin, for whom no authorities exist, neither the United Nations nor any other forces, nor political figures of the greatest proportions—yet Boris Nikolayevich is an authority for the mujahiddin.

Afghans Invited to RSFSR

LD2209124790 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—An Afghan parliamentary delegation headed by Chairman of the National Council (Parliament) Senate Mahmud Habibi is visiting Moscow at the invitation of the Russian Parliament.

The Afghan parliamentarians, who represent various political parties of the republic, held talks with Russian parliamentary committees for foreign affairs and foreign economic ties, for the affairs of the disabled, war and labour veterans, the social protection of servicemen and their family members.

The delegation was received by First Deputy Chairman of the Russian Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov.

The sides discussed prospects in relations between Afghanistan and the Russian Federation. They reaffirmed mutual readiness to help secure an early release of Soviet POW's. A frank dialogue was held on problems of settling the situation in Afghanistan and Russia's involvement in this process.

The sides agreed to continue to maintain direct contacts between Afghanistan and the Russian Federation. The forthcoming 70th anniversary of the treaty of friendship and mutual assistance signed by Soviet Russia and Afghanistan on February 21, 1921 is a sound foundation for such contacts.

Diplomatic Ties With Israel 'Have Expanded'

LD2409113990 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 24 Sep 90

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—The Soviet Union is renouncing many old stereotypes in foreign policy. This has found its reflection also in Soviet-Israeli contacts. Economic, scientific and cultural relations have expanded during the past year or two. Their level is higher than that of relations with several other countries that have embassies in Moscow. Judging by everything, these relations have great potential and good prospects.

President Gorbachev's recent meeting with two Israeli ministers, responsible for economy and science, show that a good start has been made in Soviet-Israeli political contacts. New steps in this direction may be expected.

The conviction is rapidly growing in Soviet official circles that the restoration of diplomatic relations would promote further positive changes in bilateral relations between the two countries.

The absence of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel interferes with their comprehensive exchange of views. Their restoration would lay a solid foundation for the development of cooperation between the two countries, especially since the Middle East events, the Gulf crisis above all, are beginning to refute the impression that Israel's policy is the only indisputable source of tension in the region. This is realised in the Soviet Foreign Ministry too.

At the same time, both diplomats and independent Soviet experts, particularly officials of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the USSR Academy of Sciences, are unanimous that the restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel "should not weaken or curtail traditional friendly relations with Arab nations".

On the contrary, they believe such a course of events would in the final count meet the true interests of Arabs, since the Soviet Union would then have broader possibilities to shape the search for peace in the Middle East.

Commentary on Elections, Problems in Pakistan

BK2309160390 Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Commentary by Aleksandr Batev]

[Text] Dear listeners, with over a month to go until the elections in Pakistan, the election campaign has now assumed a feverish pitch. It has, in fact, transcended

Pakistani limits and assumed international dimensions. This has been proved from the fact that Islamabad recently accused Washington of meddling in Pakistan's internal affairs.

Given the present state of U.S.-Pakistan relations, the allegation appears to be unthinkable. If that is so, then what is the motive behind this accusation, which came in the wake of U.S. Ambassador Robert Oakley's address to a meeting of Asia Society members in Washington? Robert Oakely criticized the charges of corruption leveled against former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her aides, which are being investigated by the courts. Following his criticism, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry expressed regret and dismay over outside interference in Pakistan's domestic political affairs.

In our opinion, Islamabad's reaction to the U.S. envoy's speech is extremely harsh. The fact is that Robert Oakley has delivered that speech more in his own personal capacity than in his capacity as a U.S. official. Besides that, the speech was made not in Islamabad, but miles away—in Washington—at a meeting of an organization of which only a few Pakistanis are aware.

As I see now, there is no dearth of people inside Pakistan who are criticizing the Pakistani interim government's actions. The nature of the Pakistani Government's reaction to Robert Oakley's speech creates the impression that there is something wrong somewhere. Perhaps the present Pakistani administration is finding itself in an uncomfortable position after setting up special courts to investigate charges of corruption. But, why is it that cases were filed only against former members of the Pakistan People's Party government?

If the present interim government wishes to root out corruption, then, according to Robert Oakley, it should also file cases against those who were in power before Benazir Bhutto's government—like the Mohammad Khan Junejo-led civil administration that existed during the late Zia rule. You might recall that when General Ziaul Haq suddenly sacked the Junejo government, he also accused members of the Junejo government of corruption, inability, and other sins. The same charges are now being leveled against Benazir Bhutto's government.

Then why is it that the cases are being filed in courts only against Benazir Bhutto's government and not against those who were in power before her? Robert Oakely said that the reason for this may be that many of the officeholders of the administration that was in power until 1988 are members of the present interim government. He further stated that in light of this, the actions of the court officials against Benazir Bhutto's aides appear to be partisan. The ASSOCIATED PRESS [AP] writes that all these steps [words indistinct] are aimed at barring PPP leaders from taking part in upcoming elections. In its reply, Islamabad accused the U.S. envoy of siding with Benazir Bhutto and thereby strengthening her position in the election campaign. We don't know whether or not Washington still harbors special feelings for Bhutto.

In this context, Robert Oakley's speech in Washington can only be interpreted as unofficial advice to the present Pakistani administration to work with patience and restraint. These numerous actions against Benazir Bhutto and her aides might also make them (?idols) in the eyes of Pakistani voters, which will further enhance, and not lessen, the possibility of a Bhutto victory in elections. In an interview with AP, a member of the interim government expressed his apprehension in this regard and said it is difficult to say if there is really such a risk. But, it is true that Benazir Bhutto has emerged victorious with regard to one charge—the Election Commission has dismissed as baseless the demand of several persons that since Benazir Bhutto is not a true Muslim, the former prime minister should be barred from taking part in elections. Who knows; after this victory, Benazir Bhutto might achieve other successes as well.

Sub-Saharan Africa

South African Trade Delegation Visits

90P50103A Moscow TRUD in Russian 19 Sep 90 p 3

[Unattributed article on a visit to Moscow of leaders of RSA's "Congress of South African Trade Unions", headed by its general secretary Jay Naidoo with members of USSR's All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, on 18 September: "Friendly Visit"]

[Text] On September 18, a delegation of leaders of the leading progressive trade-union association of the RSA—the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), headed by General Secretary Jay Naidoo—made a friendly visit to Moscow at the invitation of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions].

On that day, the delegation met in the Palace of Labor with the secretary of the AUCCTU, V.N. Makeyev. In the course of friendly conversation, its participants exchanged information on the positions of of South Africa and the USSR within the trade-union movement at the present stage and discussed urgent problems of the day and the international trade-union movement. On the Soviet side, a constant solidarity of the USSR workers and trade unions with the consistent struggle of the African population of the RSA for the final elimination of the apartheid system and the building of a democratic nonracist society was reaffirmed. The guests were informed about the processes occurring in the USSR for revitalizing Soviet society, as well as the role and place of trade-union organizations in the transformations taking place in the country.

The delegation traveled throughout the Soviet Union in order to become acquainted with the way of life of the country's workers and the practical activities of the trade unions.

Parliamentary Delegation Visits Namibia

LD2309120490 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Windhoek September 23 TASS—A delegation from the Soviet parliament arrived here today.

The delegation includes member of the Soviet parliament's presidium Anatoliy Malofeyev and USSR people's deputy Taras Shamba.

This is the first ever visit of Soviet parliamentarians to Namibia, which became independent six months ago.

At the Windhoek airport, Malofeyev said he hoped that the visit will initiate regular contacts between the two countries' parliamentarians.

Commentary Considers Civil War in Ethiopia

EA2309155690 Moscow International Service in Amharic 1530 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Commentary by Moscow Radio reporter Anatoliy Doronin; from "A Few Out of Many" program]

[Text] It is possible to say that many good things are taking place in the world. Relations between the USSR and the United States have improved. The spirit of trust between states is intensifying. People are happy as they see good changes. However, other conflicts which have worried us remained as yet unsolved—for example, the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, the unsolved problem of Afghanistan, as well as the civil war in Ethiopia. Addis Ababa- based Moscow Radio reporter Anatoliy Doronin, in his commentary, answers the question: Will Ethiopian unity be preserved?

The slogan "Ethiopia or Death" existed when the forefathers of the present generation fought against foreign invaders to preserve the independence of the country. The slogan still commands full support in Ethiopia. Secessionist groups are running up and down to try to secede from the country. Former soldiers are back in the regular army. Peasants are undergoing military training in various parts of the country. A campaign to collect money in defense of unity is also under way.

According the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY, it is very difficult to know the situation in the northern part of Ethiopia. According to some (?sources), after considerable victories by the secessionists, the government soldiers have gained the upper hand over the (?secessionists). However, the decisive struggle will be carried out after the rainy season has ended. That is when an answer will be given to the question, will Ethiopian unity be preserved, concludes the commentary.

East Europe

CSFR Deputy Premier Cited on Trade Talks

PM2109141190 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Report by A. Bogomolov: "Difficult Talks"]

[Text] It seems that we will have to forget about Czech shoes, Czech beer, Czech suits, and many other quality goods produced in the CSFR [Czech and Slovak Federal Republic] for a while. At least, this is the conclusion I drew after the news conference of CSFR Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales.

This meeting with journalists was prompted by the conclusion of the latest round of talks in Moscow on trade questions between representatives of our country and Czecho-Slovakia.

To use the figurative expression of Vales, these talks took place on three "floors," as it were: union, republican (with the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] and, in the next few days, with the Ukraine), and oblast (with Tyumen Oblast and, soon, with Irkutsk Oblast).

The further from the center, the greater the successes, according to Vales: At union level they did not get even half way to bilateral agreements, and there is only an accord to continue the talks (the exception is a payment and banking agreement that might be ready by 10 October). The saddest thing is that the so-called indicative lists of the goods that the sides will exchange next year were not prepared: i.e. what we are interested in—those very shoes, beer, suits, etc, which we get in exchange for oil and gas. At the level of contacts with the RSFSR, as Vales pointed out, the successes are more significant: A working group has been set up on the basis of the memorandum signed one month ago with G.I. Filshin, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and a draft bilateral agreement under which the CSFR will participate in the modernization of a number of sectors of our industry—chiefly the food industry—in exchange for Russian gas and oil will be ready at the beginning of next month.

CSFR Party Members Decline Moscow Visit

LD2209222190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] A delegation from Civic Forum and the Slovak movement Public Against Violence has for the moment declined to visit Moscow at the invitation of the International Department of the CPSU. Our correspondent in Bratislava, Aleksandr Samuilin, reports:

[Samuilin] This decision is of an obvious political nature. Both the movements are initiators of the November Revolution in Czechoslovakia. At present they are in power, and in a coalition with other parties they occupy all the key posts in the government and parliament.

The trip was to have taken place on 24 September. Besides talks at the CPSU Central Committee, the delegation from the CSFR planned to meet with members of the Presidential Council and with representatives of Soviet opposition parties.

The coordination center of the movement, Public Against Violence, published its position with regard to the refusal of its partners from Civic Forum to come to Moscow. We do not think that this is a politically fortunate decision. But since Civic Forum believes we should make such a trip together, we join with our partners in the conviction that the trip to Moscow will take place nonetheless in the very near future.

Well now, this is not the first time that definite contradictions have emerged in the coalition. It is, moreover, usualy the Slovak side that comes to a compromise. The main strategic aim is to preserve the unity of the two movements without which the very fact of the separation of Slovakia might become a reality. But are compromises always possible? The representatives of the opposition parties are asking this question increasingly frequently, those who are building their policy on the platform of the national independence of Slovakia and are urging its people to separation and the creating of their own state.

Polish Claims for Compensation Dismissed

LD2209223890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1007 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 22 Sep (TASS)—It is difficult to say now precisely how much has been built through the joint efforts of Soviet and Polish people, how many major technical projects have been put into effect—not to mention the firm (?individual) scientific and cultural contacts that have been established in the last decade. Now someone is set on cancelling all this out, debasing it and flinging mud at it, writes PRAVDA today in the article 'Are the Claims Justified?'

The newspaper notes that in Poland the graves of Soviet soldiers who fell during the liberation of that country are being desecrated. Nor is there any shortage of them in Polish soil: more than 600,000. Monuments to V.I. Lenin by whose decree Poland was granted its independence in 1918 are being removed. Groups of rampaging thugs attack the Soviet diplomatic representations in Krakow and Gdansk. In Sopot, young people make a show of burning Russian language textbooks. The names of streets and squares connected with the Soviet Union are being changed in Polish towns. Moreover, the article underlines, all of this is presented as the will of the people.

As in any history of relations between two neighboring peoples, there are various pages, "black" ones included—this cup, too, has not been removed from us, the paper writes. The essential thing is to calmly—without emotion, undue haste, or irritability—examine the contentious issues and find mutually acceptable solutions so our relations are not darkened by "black" pages in the future. This work is in hand. Under the declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the field of ideology, science, and culture—signed in April 1987, by M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski—a joint commission of historians was formed, which has done a great deal of work. This is a difficult issue, for which time is required. However, we already have the first results. Careful investigation into the Katyn tragedy has been carried out, including a search for documents. However, notes PRAVDA, the impression is formed that for a year now passions have been fanned and anti-Soviet sentiments aroused deliberately over this tragedy.

Our neighbors over the Bug are putting forward ever more demands and claims, the newspaper goes on. For example, they are demanding that Poland's debts to the Soviet Union be written off, giving as their motive the fact that these allegedly arose as the results of the Soviet side's intentional lowering of rates of pay for construction services. We are talking about 5.3 billion transferable rubles. They insist on the return of the former "Ossolineum" Library in Lvov [family library of the Ossolinskis]. They demand compensation to Poles who were the victims of Stalin's repressions—who number, according to Polish estimates, something in the region of 200,000-250,000 people. The Soviet side is claiming payments of around five to seven billion rubles.

If it continues like this, someone will begin to press territorial claims, too, the paper notes.

As for writing off Poland's foreign debt to the USSR, PRAVDA continues, this matter is somewhat different from how it is being presented by the Polish side. Economic cooperation between the states is carried out on the basis of the relevant joint documents and treaties, which determine all the sides' outgoings. True, payments for Polish organizations' construction services to the USSR were lower than world prices. However, in exchange, the Poles received oil and gas at prices similarly below world prices. In 1976-1985 alone, Poland's overall gain because of price differences amounted to 7.6 billion rubles. So who is indebted to whom?

The newspaper recalls that in the period of joint struggle against the fascist occupiers and the difficult post-war years, the Soviet Union came to Poland's aid and shared with it material resources and food. The article cites this fact: In 1980 alone, Soviet aid to Poland, when the country was undergoing a profound economic crisis, amounted to a total of 250 million transferable rubles and 850 million dollars, while in 1981 it already amounted to 1.6 billion transferable rubles, and as many dollars. A one-time and gratuitous credit payment of $500 million was also made.

Our two peoples are neighbors, says PRAVDA, summing up, and none can alter the geographical location of the two states. In the future we need to build our relations on the basis of good will and good-neighborliness.

Yanayev Pays Brief Working Visit to Bulgaria

PM2309181990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 First Edition p 4

[TASS "Official Announcement"]

[Text] Sofia, 20 Sep—G.I. Yanayev, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Committee, met with A. Lilov, chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Supreme Council, on 19 September, during a brief working visit to Sofia.

There was an exchange of opinions and information on problems of the radical renewal of society's political and economic structures, which are currently being tackled by the CPSU and BSP. There was confirmation of the mutual commitment to regularly examine, on a mutual basis, one another's experience in the theoretical elaboration and practical implementation of the ideas of democratic socialism.

Wishing the 39th BSP Congress success, the CPSU Central Committee secretary stressed that Soviet communists will be following its work with sincere interest.

RSFSR Marxist Platform Group in Bulgaria

PM2409135390 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A group of members of the coordination council of the Marxist Platform in the CPSU consisting of RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee members Yu.N. Yegorov, A.I. Kolganov, and A.V. Kryuchkov was in Bulgaria 14 through 19 September. They took part in a "roundtable" organized by the Marxist Alternative in the Bulgarian Socialist Party. They also had meetings in Bulgarian Socialist Party party organizations and in the DUMA newspaper editorial office and were received by A. Strezov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party Supreme Council. A protocol was signed on the development of cooperation between the CPSU Marxist Platform and the Bulgarian Socialist Party Marxist Alternative.

Number of GDR Deserters Increases

AU2409142690 Hamburg BILD AM SONNTAG in German 23 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by "FWM/DIT": "GDR: 100 Russians Deserted—Order To Shoot in Barracks"]

[Text] The number of Soviet soldiers who desert in the GDR is increasing. According to information obtained from the FRG Government, 100 soldiers have escaped to the FRG since 1 September. As a result, according to information obtained from Bonn, the Soviet Supreme Command has given orders to shoot at soldiers deserting from their barracks and during maneuvers.

In the GDR, where they were once celebrated as liberators, Soviet soldiers are physically attacked with increasing frequency; some have even been shot at. Many of them do not want to return home because there everything is lacking: housing, jobs, clothes—even bread.

The German corps of the Soviet Army (363,000 soldiers and their 200,000 dependents) is in a profound crisis. Lack of discipline and crime have risen drastically. Drinking bouts, brawls, break-ins, and poaching are usual. Since 1 July, since they have been receiving their salary in Deutsche marks [DM], the black market is flourishing. In front of the 200 barracks in the GDR Soviet soldiers offer their caps and gun belts, sell canisters full of diesel fuel, and even their weapons—a Kalashnikov assault rifle brings DM1,000. For a Red Army soldier this is big money—after all, he gets DM25 per month.

Among the GDR population the years of suppression have exploded in hatred. In Perleberg a barrack was shot at from a motorcycle. One soldier on guard was killed. In Neuruppin a military patrol was beaten to such an extent that they had to be hospitalized.

The Red Army soldiers who have fled to the FRG are now creating problems in relations between Bonn and Moscow. The FRG Justice Ministry is examining the "current legal situation for asylum-seeking Soviet soldiers." In talks with Soviet representatives, the Foreign Ministry is trying to find a "mutually acceptable solution" by 3 October, the day of German unity.

The Soviets are trying to keep the embarrassing mass flight secret. Said a spokesman of the Supreme Command of the Western Group of Soviet Forces in Wuensdorf: "I do not have any information about this."

East European Specialists Discuss Economic Reform

PM2409151590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1

[Report by own correspondent V. Vedrashko: "Reform is a Common Cause"]

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Sep—A two-day meeting of experts from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and Yugoslavia on economic reform questions ended yesterday in Snagov, near Bucharest.

It was, by general consent, a very important step toward serious and businesslike cooperation.

According to President I. Iliescu, the Snagov conference laid the foundation for broader cooperation among the six states in conducting reforms. We have the grounds for strengthening true friendship, the president said.

As Romanian Prime Minister P. Roman noted in an interview on evening television, Eastern Europe already has an established common market. It does not have the parameters of the West European common market, of course, and product quality needs to be significantly improved. Therefore, it would be foolish to abandon the existing common potential for economic collaboration.

Defense Ministry Views Pullout From East Europe

PM2409083190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 90 p 1

[Article signed by "KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Editorial Board": "Better To Fire Sausages Than Shells. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Tells Defense Ministry To Make a Lot of Money"]

[Text] The last Soviet soldier will leave East Europe on 31 December 1995. But even now trains are constantly arriving from the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and Hungary, and soon they will come from Poland and united Germany.

The issue here is what we are leaving behind as we depart.

We are leaving a lot. Airfields (international class in Hungary, for example), storage facilities, housing, overpasses. The pullout schedule is such that at times the troop pullout resembles a retreat during which property, fuel, and lubricants are jettisoned....

The Ministry of Defense is in no way to blame for this—the decision was made at the political leadership level, and now, in our view, we should be thinking not of punishing the guilty but of what can be done and how to stop the ruin of our military installations, which, having been left ownerless after the troop pullout, are simply being ransacked. The allied governments talk of a "zero" option whereby the USSR's and, say, Hungary's material claims are reciprocally canceled—but what about the Army! After all, it did not obtain anything gratis outside the fatherland.

The problem is seemingly insoluble, but it can nevertheless be solved. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA makes the following suggestion to the USSR Ministry of Defense: Devise a joint plan to sell the property and principal resources left in the East European countries. We are prepared to hold joint talks with the allied countries' governments on creating more advantageous conditions for selling the property left behind and to be an intermediary in resolving of all financial and juridical questions.

The benefit that will be gained by implementing the joint plan is obvious: additional foreign currency resources for the Ministry of Defense. And this means an improvement in the social and economic conditions of soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, officers, and their families. The ball is now in the generals' court.

Supreme Soviet

Shatalin Program Approved 'In Principle'

LD2109124590 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondents Lev Aksenov and Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—The chairmen of Soviet parliamentary committees and commissions today unanimously supported a programme for the transition to a market economy, based on the 500-day concept of Academician Stanislav Shatalin and submitted by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

At the same time, they pointed to "substantial drawbacks" of the programme, referring, above all, to the system of social guarantees during the transition to a market economy.

Today's discussion in the Soviet parliament showed deputies' critical attitude to this programme, which is also known as the "presidential programme".

However, deputies agreed that the programme could be approved "in principle".

Vladimir Valov said the document revealed "the haste with which it was drafted". He denounced the programme-proposed "replacement" of the Soviet Union's dismantling".

Valov said the programme's authors "seek to defend private capital, accumulated in the shadow economy". He noted that "not only 500 days, but even 5,000 days will not be enough" to implement the programme.

Valentin Tetenov said the presidential programme needed to be "finalised seriously". He said its achilles' heel was the system of social guarantees and housing reform.

Nikolay Kozyrev said there was "no alternative" to a market economy. "Earlier, it was a theorem, now it has become an axiom", he said.

Viktor Alksnis described the parliamentary discussion as a "waste of time", because "none of the programmes can lead society and the economy out of the crisis, unless the major problem—the problem of power—is solved".

Alksnis denounced attempts to "continue dismantling the Soviet Union", saying that in conditions of a federation "there can only be one kind of sovereignty—that of a federative state".

Ivan Kukhar criticised agrarian aspects of the Shatalin programme. He rejected its "reliance on private farms", saying that the "main task is not to abolish collective and state farms, but to develop the independence of farming in every way".

Then the parliament was addressed by Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov. He proposed drafting a single programme that would combine elements of the governmental draft and the presidential programme. (Ryzhkov's statement was moved in a separate report)

Yuriy Chernichenko said the Russian parliament had already expressed its mistrust in the country's government, and warned against "quarreling with Russia—it was already tried".

He linked the vote for the Shatalin programme with the resignation of the incumbent Soviet Government.

The Ryzhkov government "will have nothing to do during the implementation of this programme", he said. "The president can now form a controllable and small government."

Gorbachev summed up results of the discussion. (his remarks will be moved later)

Decision on Economic Plan Postponed Until 24 Sep

LD2109170490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1550 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report from the Kremlin by TASS parliamentary correspondents Lev Aksenov and Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Sep (TASS)—The members of the USSR Supreme Soviet set about the complicated and important procedure of adopting a decision on the programs for the stabilization of the country's national economy at their evening plenary sitting. Following detailed discussion of the program submitted by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and of the government draft, the majority of parliament members concurred that the presidential option drawn up on the basis of the program of Academician Stanislav Shatalin's group should be the one chosen.

Many parliamentarians hold opposing views on the most important question of who will implement the program: the president or the government? Arguments were voiced in favor of both viewpoints. There was also a proposal to grant "the government emergency powers before a new Union treaty is concluded" and "to declare a moratorium until the year's end on Union and autonomous republics making decisions that run counter to the USSR Constitution."

Deputy Anatoliy Denisov's proposal to approve in principle both drafts—that of the president and that of the government—came as something of a surprise. "Even if we adopt one of them, we will come up against two methods of implementing them," he argued. As this member of parliament sees it, if both drafts are adopted, it will be necessary "to define the regions where the government's milder therapy would operate, and where the Shatalin reform would operate."

The Supreme Soviet members were also offered a draft decision which, for a transitional period, would invest the president with certain additional powers essential for the programs to be implemented with despatch. This also generated lively discussion. A number of deputies voiced their fears that delegating a large number of prerogatives to the president would impinge on the rights of parliament. Others raised the question of why the president's decrees are not being implemented, and whether a similar fate does not lie in store for his future acts.

For the second time today Mikhail Gorbachev claimed the platform during the discussion.

Two drafts of the final document were submitted for examination by parliament, on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet committees and commissions and on behalf of the country's government. Nikolay Ryzhkov, head of the USSR Government, delivered a speech at the morning sitting supporting the latter.

The stormy nature of the debates on the drafts proposed was dictated by the acuteness of the sociopolitical and socioeconomic situation in the country. The deputies put forward many proposals, some going back to first principles. Thus, Vladimir Kirillov advocated bringing the USSR Congress of People's Deputies forward to "invest the president with the powers of head of an executive authority."

On the suggestion of Anatoliy Lukyanov, the draft decisions will be further worked on, taking account of the addenda, and will be put to the vote at the next sitting, which is to be held on Monday.

Lack of Quorum Delays Vote on Economic Program

AU2109150090 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, Sept 21 (AFP)—President Mikhail Gorbachev on Friday urged a compromise agreement on crucial economic reforms after Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov had rejected a radical proposal put before deputies and produced a rival text.

The radical proposal was nonetheless put to the vote, but it was then found that the house was some 50 deputies short of a quorum in what the speaker said was a deliberate move and one deputy described as sabotage.

Earlier, the deputy premier responsible for economic reform, Leonid Abalkin, had said the goverment would resign immediately if the radical plan drawn up by Academician Abel Aganbegyan was adopted.

The resolution, which basically called for adoption of the radical reform programme supported by Mr. Gorbachev, was nonetheless put to the house and it was then discovered that attendance was some 50 short of a quorum.

This situation was "unacceptable" and "no accident," said parliamentary speaker, Anatoly Lukyanov, while one deputy went even further, saying it was a case of "sabotage."

A total of 267 deputies voted for the resolution, 12 against and 32 abstained, a total of 311 against a required quorum of 362.

This latest twist in the long-running attempt to agree an economic reform programme came on a day which had been expected to see at least a parliamentary vote to adopt in principle one economic reform idea.

The more radical plan supported by Mr. Gorbachev had been accepted by most commissions and committees set up to consider the issue, and a draft resolution to adopt it was produced.

But Mr. Abalkin had told journalists in the corridors of the house that the government would resign immediately if the plan were adopted, and Mr. Ryzhkov said the government rejected the plan, producing an alternative draft resolution calling for yet another review of the various proposals.

The government is proposing a far more moderate set of changes, which were virtually ignored in the radical plan which was aimed at reconciling the rival proposals in a formula acceptable to all sides.

Mr. Gorbachev on Friday urged parliament to "resolutely reject the idea of an overturning of the current power and management system" of the country after Mr. Ryzhkov spoke.

"If we start disrupting everything in the country, it will be a gift to all the pretenders, all those ambitious people who are ready to exploit the country," he said.

Mr. Abalkin had warned earlier that "The government will resign immediately, Ryzhkov first and me too, if the Aganbegyan programme is adopted today."

"The government is made up of serious and professional people who do not want to take part in this adventure."

Mr. Abalkin said that the Aganbegyan plan, which basically follows the lines of a radical reform programme drawn up by economist Stanislav Shatalin would have "tragic consequences."

"They will have to find other people, because the government refuses to implement this programme," Mr. Abalkin added.

The Shatalin plan has already been adopted in principle by the parliament of the Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic headed by radical reformer Boris Yeltsin, which has called for Mr. Ryzhkov to step down.

Mr. Shatalin told reporters on the sidelines of Friday's parliamentary session that he was not a possible candidate for the premiership if it fell vacant, because of his poor health.

"I am very seriously ill, and it is not possible that I should be named prime minister," he said, but added that he was "ready to help" implement his reform programme. There have been persistent rumours that he is suffering from cancer.

21 Sep Supreme Soviet Proceedings Outlined

Deputies Back President's Plan

LD2109184390

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1740 GMT on 21 September broadcasts a recorded report on the 21 September proceedings of the USSR Supreme Soviet plenary session to discuss the national economic program, held in the Kremlin in Moscow. The announcer says the plenary session was to sum up discussions on the stabilization of the market and the program for a market economy. Gorbachev is present, and is shown on the platform. The first to speak is Vologzhin, on behalf of the committees and commissions.

At 1741 GMT Vologzhin is shown giving his report: He says the committees had a lot of discussion about social effects. The transition to the market will require a range of measures involving privatization and denationalization. Bank capital will be involved, as will housing and means of production. Further work is needed on land reform aspects, he says: Mistakes here could have unpredictable consequences. The republics should decide on specific ways of property relations concerning land.

At 1743 GMT Vologzhin says that social guarantees for the population should also be provided mainly by republics, with some all-Union provision for certain categories of people. There is still work to be done on this aspect, he says. As for price formation, the president's proposed program does not pay enough attention to the problems. Joint work on the topic must be continued.

At 1746 GMT Vologzhin, continuing, says there have been requests for the fuel and energy complex to be kept unified. The planning and budget committee has made proposals on the central bank. A proposal for a working plan for implementation of the market program in the last quarter of this year deserves attention, he says, and the legal provisions of the plan have to be ensured.

At 1749 GMT Vologzhin concludes that the committees and commissions consider that the president's program is basically workable. The finishing touches must be put to it as soon as possible, he says.

At 1750 GMT Gritsenko speaks for the labor and social issues commission. He says that Shatalin's program has better provisions for the first 100 days of implementation, with fixed prices for a restricted range of items. The ruble must be the sole currency, and the State Bank must back it. People working at inefficient enterprises need some protection, he insists. Until market prices are in effect, attention must be paid to the state order, he says, and measures are needed to preserve the ruble's purchasing power and to see that it is convertible, possibly by a gold-backed unit.

At 1753 GMT Gritsenko speaks on housing permits and the provision of housing for young families, veterans, and others with special needs. The credit and finance section of the president's program has some provisions that seem to contradict other legislation about rights to sell property, he says. Some enterprises need tax incentives. Pensioners and students should get compensation for increases in the prices index. The government program allows for full compensation in 1990-91, and the necessary legislation to enable compensation should be passed no later than November, he says.

At 1758 Gritsenko says social rights were better catered for in the government program than in Shatalin's. The law on pensions must be passed in good time, he says, and the provisions on unemployment benefits are to be supported. He notes that the provisions on the housing program have given rise to argument.

At 1800 GMT Gritsenko says that once the finishing touches are put on the presidential program, and various suggestions have been considered, it should be published for nationwide discussion. The final program cannot be adopted without this, he says. On the whole, Gritsenko concludes, the presidential program is preferred.

At 1802 GMT Kucherenko speaks for the Soviet of the Union planning and budget commission. On the whole, they approve the presidential program, with some reservations. The government's proposals on changes to price formations would be less likely to lead to wild price increases, he says. The measures for stabilization of the ruble are too weak, the sources for formation of the state budget are too vague, and it is not expedient to turn the State Bank into a reserve bank, he says. The proposals on forming currency reserves from contributions republic by republic are not good. The administration of the economy certainly needs radical change, he stresses, but the government must not be alienated altogether from implementation of nationwide programs.

At 1807 GMT Kucherenko says that the presidential program does not deal well with the role of the Soviet Union as a state. The formation of next year's budget should be based on laws already adopted, he says. Kucherenko speaks out against the closing of coal mines, in his position as a Donbass deputy.

At 1809 GMT Golik speaks for the law and order committee. The situation can only be improved by actually doing something. The presidential program seems to do the best job of combining the various proposals, he says, but a successful market economy will need to pay better attention to a strong legal system. Privatization is going to provide a way to legalize money from the shadow economy. Unemployment is likely to rise quickly, which always leads to a higher crime rate. In order to speed up passage of legislation, Gulik concludes, some things should be delegated to the president.

At 1816 GMT Sharipov speaks for the Soviet of Nationalities commission on the development of republics. The commission backs the presidential program. Republics must have an equal say in the state-wide economic contract, he says. Proper stock must be taken of what property is being privatized. The program rejects centralized price setting—a chain reaction of price rises must be avoided, and a more flexible system allowed for, he says, with centralized price setting for certain goods. A monetary reform should not be ruled out, if it should prove necessary.

At 1822 GMT Sharipov says that allowances must be made for the unequal conditions suffered by some republics; they will need help to enter a market economy. Elsewhere in the world there are various ways in which underdeveloped areas are assisted. Autonomous formations may resent centralized prices for fuel resources, Sharipov says, as they are the main suppliers. The country's external and domestic debts are enormous, and foreign banks are reluctant to grant credit. This might spark off an industrial shut-down, and recession in 1991. These factors must be considered in forming next year's budget, he says.

At 1826 GMT Sharipov says that several republics are talking about recession. It must be understood that they may wish to be economically associated with the Union. As for denationalization, it is mainly workers at enterprises who should become the owners of them, through a share distribution scheme with 30 percent for workers, 30 percent for the state, and 40 percent for the public. Implementation of this major program is possible only with public support. Sharipov appeals to republican authorities to give it their backing.

At 1829 the announcer says that debates then began, and he summarizes their spirit while the video shows unnamed speakers at the rostrum. Ryzhkov is asked to speak in the middle of the debate.

At 1830 GMT Ryzhkov speaks, emphasizing the importance of the topic under discussion.

At 1839 GMT the announcer then says that discussion then continued for another hour. Fifty-three deputies spoke. Then Gorbachev spoke, says the announcer.

At 1840 GMT the announcer notes that the evening session continued the debate on the economy, but had no quorum, and was hence unable to adopt any decisions.

The recorded report ends.

Presidential Powers Debated

LD2309201790

Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1925 GMT on 23 September broadcasts a 23-minute recording of the USSR Supreme Soviet 21 September proceedings held in the Kremlin in Moscow.

At 1928 GMT the announcer begins by saying that as they were unable to transmit proceedings of the evening session on Friday, and the topics were very important, it is being transmitted today.

At 1929 GMT Golik is shown speaking from the rostrum about a resolution allowing the president to issue "decrees of a normative character." These would cover a definite range of matters, including ownership and management of the economy. Acts of law would remain in force. Silence from the Supreme Soviet would be taken as a sign of approval on a decree.

At 1931 GMT Golik answers questions from the floor on details of the resolution. A woman deputy says the situation is so difficult and dangerous that decisions have to be made daily. The president must be given powers to make decisions on important and urgent matters.

An unidentified deputy from the rostrum says things are in such a mess that he even thinks sometimes a state of emergency should be declared or presidential rule invoked. He refers to provisions of the Constitution enabling certain powers to be delegated temporarily to the president.

At 1935 GMT Lubenchenko speaks from the rostrum about the Supreme Soviet's responsibilities, which it has been fulfilling, so it won't be giving up much by deferring to the president.

Pamfilova agrees with Lubenchenko that the Supreme Soviet has not been keeping track of the executive's activities.

At 1938 GMT Gorbachev asks to speak and comes to rostrum.

At 1942 GMT Roy Medvedev speaks from the floor in support of the resolution. The situation is so explosive that technicalities of the resolution must not be allowed to let the country go to ruin. Medvedev is grateful that Gorbachev has not resorted to force in places where decrees have already been ignored.

At 1944 GMT a deputy from Sakhalin asks for Gorbachev's opinion on unfulfilled decrees.

The recording ends at 1948 GMT.

Ryzhkov, Gorbachev Speak on Economic Programs

Ryzhkov Sees 'Common Features'

LD2109220990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1830 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Speech by USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov at the 21 September USSR Supreme Soviet plenary session held in the Kremlin in Moscow—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed people's deputies! A very serious discussion is under way in this hall, which, in my opinion, characterizes the importance of the question which you and I are discussing. That is not simply a purely economic question, but is also a political one, which will determine both the destiny of our state structure and the destiny of our state. Obviously, therefore, in the immediate future, you are to adopt very responsible decisions, perhaps the most complex, the most responsible decisions since the new parliament came into existence.

Practically, we are discussing two programs—the program which has been elaborated by scientists, under the leadership of Academician Shatalin, and presented by the president of the country for examination by the Supreme Soviet, and the program of the government, which the government has elaborated in accordance with the decision of June's USSR Supreme Soviet. We fulfilled that work consienciously, and on 1 September we signed such a program.

Therefore, discussion is under way of these two most important documents. I should say—and all the addresses delivered before today, and today's conclusions by chairman of the committees and commissions who put forward their proposals here on behalf of their commissions and committees—confirm this. All this shows that these two documents really do have a great deal in common, and there is practically no difference of opinion on the main, fundamental questions. However, there is also a fundamental difference of opinion on which these two programs do not meet today, and they remain a topic of argument and discussion. This can be seen also from today's speeches.

So, first I would emphasize the common features on many issues in these two programs. I do not wish to dwell again on the points of principle the government occupies on certain issues. I spoke of this in my report on the 11th, and this was spoken of by members of the government in their speeches here, and it was said in the remarks directed to the Supreme Soviet on behalf of the government by Comrade Abalkin, so there is no need for me to return once again to these problems, and I do not consider it necessary to develop a discussion today on these problems.

I have a proposal, a constructive proposal. We have to find a common language. We must not go away with this and that different document. If we again cast two documents into our society, again cast them into the Union republics, containing differing standpoints, we will not achieve anything worthwhile, there will be no stabilization, and we will be drawing people more and more into this debate instead of dwelling on certain fundamental matters and making progress in accordance with the areas mapped out in the two programs. So, I have a specific proposal on the draft decision submitted for your examination. I would request that point number one of this decision should be formulated such that further work on forming a unified program be carried out based the two programs which have been submitted for examination by the Supreme Soviet; the remarks expressed during discussion by the Supreme Soviet; the conclusions drawn by the commissions and committees of the Supreme Soviet; and, evidently, the proposals which are coming in from the localities, as they say, on this or that issue. That is, work should be organized on the basis of the two programs.

A second remark, which I would also ask to be considered: In my view, there would be no purpose in now instructing academicians Aganbegyan, Abalkin, and Shatalin, as the second point, to finalize the draft program together with the committees. They have expressed their opinions, they have put forth their opinions as scientists, they have not found a common language, as they say, on certain points, and we need hardly instruct the three academicians to do further work on this document.

In my view this should be entrusted to the committees—the Supreme Soviet should entrust this to its committees and commissions. Together with the Council of Ministers, with the other committees, the commission of the Supreme Soviet, and experts brought in from outside, they should sit down yet again, as they say, and ultimately—in fact by 1 October, as is stated here—present a single program on how the country's work will be based, and which will be discussed by the supreme soviets of Union republics.

There is one final proposal which I would also ask you to examine and discuss. This is the question of what happens in 1991. Preparatory work for next year has been halted in the country. Virtually no serious preparatory work is being done. Comrade Kurtashin spoke very heatedly about this here today. I know perfectly well what the state of economic preparations for 1991 is in the country at the moment. In my view, the decision which we now make on the question under review should include a special additional point, namely that preparations for the work of the national economy in 1991 should begin immediately, based on laws adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet. These should not be subjected to any revision at present. If we now revise this or that law, we will not be able to organize work in 1991, either on the budgets of the Union republics or on the central budget. USSR presidential decrees on various questions, regulating the affairs of the national economy, should not be called into question in any way. Neither should the decisions and instructions of the Council of Ministers or other normative acts be questioned on which preparations for our country's work in 1991 have to be based right now. If today we do not decide to do this, if we wait until the programs dovetail with each other, so to speak, if a certain period of time then has to pass while we again study and adopt the final decision, we will be losing time. We will not be getting ready.

Comrades, if we do not do it this way, if we do not stipulate special conditions, including the retention of links—how precisely this is done is a separate question—we will find ourselves in an extremely difficult situation. It will be virtually impossible for us to implement the decisions which we are now preparing for the transition to the market, because we are not ready for work in 1991. I strongly urge you to adopt such a decision, as the last point in the draft. We have submitted proposals on this to the Supreme Soviet Presidium. We would ask you to consider our proposals when you finalize this, when you complete your discussions and adopt a decision on today's agenda item.

Gorbachev Wants Single Document

LD2109164790 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Speech by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR president, at the USSR Supreme Soviet session in Moscow on 21 September—recorded]

[Text] I think that the discussion which took place in committee and which has come here, to the Supreme Soviet plenary sitting, generally reflects in a real way the state of mind in our society and the anxiety of our people which is being caused by a real situation, by a political, social and economic one, and by the question of to what the market is here and how to reach it and what it will mean for the individual, for every family, and for the whole country. That is why I perceive this discussion politically, casting aside all emotional colorings and comparisons and metaphors. This is the essence, I think. What else can be said?

I addressed you and said that probably this session is incredibly important. There is a word—historic—which I think we have finally started to pronounce less frequently. Some time ago we used it a lot—at any opportunity—because a choice is being made. The choice is: How we are going to introduce reforms to our society, and moreover to our main sphere which determines everything that will happen in the future and our whole life style, and what kind of union we are going to have, and what code of morals and human... the whole complex of human relations we will have. What else can be said?

That is why I would like to say once again that I have been listening very attentively to the comrades' speeches. All the time I imagined myself next to those who were speaking and I was trying to understand everyone's logic. Some things do motivate a person—a specific experience, specific knowledge, or, well, a specific interest; that happens most of all. But nevertheless all this should be looked into.

I would like to share an impression I had during the course of the discussion. It is that radical economic reform is not to the liking of some people. Yes, they do not accept it. This takes place here too; it is evident. This is also a reality. They probably do not accept it. They are ready to—by any means, even now in the very complicated conditions when people are expecting us to act and to change—they want to find means and arguments drawing support from that very reality, that very hard reality. They are trying, under the pressure of the people's mood, to say that we should keep things the way they were. It was better then. I do not think so, no. Nevertheless, I think that we are going in the right direction, although we are making the most difficult choice of all time, each time.

Other people think that we have a lot of time and we can still talk, ponder, try, experiment, have a close look at what will be coming out of it, etc. We do not have this time, comrades. We do not have it. That is what the matter is. We do not have it from the point of view of the pace of the destructive processes in the economy and in the Union. Above all we do not have it because due to these processes in the economy people's lives already dictate different decisions, different deeds and different actions to us. People already... [changes thought]

When Comrade Sukhov came up to me he said—rightly: Mikhail Sergeyevich, I have this impression after your speech. I am sharing it with you with his consent. He said: When you say that people are demanding now that you do something, then—he says—someone has deliberately drawn up this program to drive people to such a state that they are now ready for and agree to anything, including the market, etc. Well, he roughly repeated this in his speech.

I do not deny him this. Incidentally, we are continually exchanging opinions with Comrade Sukhov, all the time. I do not deny him the right to have his own point of view and I must say it comes from life itself, you know, and from the perceptions of a working person who has already been enriched with the experience of parliamentary debates. It is all so. But comrades, we do not indeed have any time because we continue to see what situation people are in. We must get down to business and resolve this situation; resolve it and move forward. Move forward all the same.

Third, I would also like to draw attention to this. Maybe it is the same... Here I join in those critical remarks that were addressed to both one program and the other, but especially those on the topic about the president's program... Well, not the president's one, but the one presented by the president. I do not claim that it was the president's program as it was drawn up by collectives of academics and specialists... Well, especially those two documents that were submitted here directly by Academician Shatalin, Academician Shatalin's group, as primary ones and were discussed in Russia. It is as if it has lost touch and is hovering above the ground.

In general I must say that we cannot implement the program. We can neither draw up a program nor implement it if—I will repeat what I was saying in my speech here before our discussion started—if we fail to feel the special features of our country all the time. They, comrades, are very huge and very vital. They cannot be just resolutely broken over a knee, though it looks simple. We will drop them now with a bang... No, for all my desire to move resolutely ahead in this direction, as we say,—at the same time I am for constantly taking into account in what context and in what society we implement these... begin a transfer to the market. There is the militarized economy where the accent is on heavy industry. Just try this economy, in the conditions of this economy, to implement a structural policy; and without it the switch over of all industries, especially of the defense industry and others, to the market demands and so on. This will not happen. This is clear. This must be taken into account.

This is one point. And a multinational state and the different levels of development in our regions and republics—are they not a specific feature? And the problems that have accumulated—they are here, they are present. When people discuss this transition, a most important turn, they want to know which way these problems of ours will be solved there during the transition and after? Therefore this should also be taken into account.

Look, a representative from Uzbekistan has spoken. We had a Politburo meeting yesterday and comrades spoke, including the president of Uzbekistan. Issues on the upcoming plenum, economic reform and the stabilization of society on the whole, and what the party should do at this stage were discussed appropriately there. He said a lot. He said a lot and highlighted the particular features of that region. All this should be taken into account.

Finally, about privatization. When we speak about privatization in general, in scientific terms, then everybody starts: It means breeding private owners and capitalism. But I always believe that privatization in the generally accepted order means changing the owner [word indistinct]. Furthermore, and in our economic conditions this means that the collective, the people will be receiving this....

I do not want to argue or anything with Comrade Bunich; rather, I share a lot of what he has said, that we have to be very attentive here. For the time being the program does not reveal the whole issue of a privatization and transfer mechanism, so to speak, either through buying out or through something else.

But I think that without fail this is a special feature of ours: Absolute state property must now find an owner by itself and evoke in this owner motives and interests for working, for efficiently putting it to use, and for receiving. This is what we must do. And I think that this already-privatized owner, say, will in general be cooperatives or lease-holders. They are associations of free producers; this is what they are, you see. And there they will bring into action... they will see what and how to do it and whether or not they will admit others and to what extent. This is already a question.

The manner in which privatization should be implemented in our democratic state with working people, in a society of working people, is a specific feature. It is not a repetition of what others do in order to privatize. We have to have a look.

Comrade Petrakov, my assistant, explained to me the economy and its structure. You know, take the United States, Canada, Japan and Australia. Practically everything is private over there. But take other branches [corrects himself] countries, both Great Britain, France, Germany and so on and so forth, many, very many—there is a huge state sector. It seems that the state sector accounts for over 30 percent in Italy. It includes power engineering and even car manufacturing where large-scale car manufacturing is available. It is there, you see: communications, and so on and so forth.

So, it is our task to finish with this totally impersonal property which has deprived, which has torn the individual out, repulsed him, and killed his interest in this. This is true. But we have to find the manner in which this should be solved. Again, this is our context and our specific features, all this, so to speak. And I must say that in any case, even if you hold another 30 Supreme Soviet meetings you will not be able to stipulate everything or answer all the questions. Only the experience of moving forward can provide an answer, and it will be based on common principles, on some common concept, on common approaches; but it will differ a lot and not only by republic but even by collective.

In actual fact the starting conditions of every family will be different.

Here is another thing that I would like to say. Someone might think and want to propose that what the president has submitted is the best program, that it will be easier with that. Well, Shatalin's, perhaps that will be more difficut or easier. Or the government program—well thought-through and close to life—might be more reliable. But I think there is a difference in all these variants, although it is to this part that I will go over to in a moment.

But let us not deceive ourselves or the people, our people whom we are asking to believe us, this. [sentence as heard] The Supreme Soviet, this government, and these authorities, and to support us in this extremely difficult choice and decision. [sentence as heard] The transition will be a difficult one all the same. It is simply the scale of work like this and it is such a novelty that it will be an extremely difficult transition and therefore the subject of how to make it less painful, especially as far as people's lives are concerned, how to get people involved and make them fellow participants in a good sense here, so that everyone enters upon these difficulties with understanding.

I think this is the reason, comrades, why it turns out that the initial stage is necessary. And I think that for the moment you and I are discussing our entry into the market. We were talking with Nikolay Ivanovich and other comrades yesterday. This is the entry into the market. The market will progress, you know, it will appear over five to 10 years, and then it will take shape, will it not? That is the entry into the market.

But I think that people must see that this entry into the market will, on the one hand, have mechanisms offering security, protective mechanisms, so to speak, as far as possible, so that big distortions do not occur. And on the other hand, some kind of transitional regime is needed. If there is a lot of chewing things over as well, I am sure of that—this is why I have not set about it, for example—now one can, now that we have discussed it and spoken about it, talk about these 100, 101 days, and on the 251st day... that is...I think you all understand this. And some people quite seriously subjected to it. And, they said, but what about 101? And on the 101st day?

No, I think that if we drag out this entry into the market we will be making it the most excruciating process. Nonetheless, we have to go, all of us must go so that the entry does take place and then this process will go ahead more or less and all the market mechanisms will, so to speak, start to operate and develop.

I am thinking this over and I can see what spectrum of opinions there is and so forth. But nonetheless I think we can say that the Supreme Soviet—and I expressed the hope in the beginning and I think that is being confirmed—has comprehensively examined a large complex of issues relating to the transition to the market, but the work has not yet been completed. This is the first thing.

The second thing is that in the discussion it was rightly noted that there was a great coincidence in the approaches to resolving the problems during the transitional stage to the market. At the same time not a single one of the drafts can be—and this is how I understand your opinion—has been adopted as definitive. I think that this is also clear. Not a single draft.

What is this? A tragedy? No. In my opinion we are getting used to it all the time, although (?there are different approaches to this issue) Well, why were we dragged into it, as it were? Comrade Kucherenko turns around when I speak about this topic. He says: What are we going to the Supreme Soviet for again? (?We elect you) You reach an agreement there, Mikhail Sergeyevich, he said recently. No, no, no. Let us reach an agreement together, comrades. Together, together, comrades, check everything together. And I believe that it is good that the alternatives emerged, both the one draft and the other draft and that there is a lot of information, etc. Everything, as it were. We are now summarizing it.

I can see that an opinion has been formed that on the basis of the drafts that have been presented—and there are many of these, not just the ones presented by the president and by the government, but also alternatives. And there are the two original volumes of Academician Shatalin's group. So on the basis of all these drafts that have been presented, and the proposals from the deputies and the committees, I believe that very many essential and very significant things have been proposed here. The opinion has been formed that a single draft should be prepared, taking as a basis the draft presented by the president, by the president. It should be enriched to the maximum degree with clauses.

Particularly many comrades have said directly that whole sections of the government's program have been studied thoroughly and several sections even more so, as it were. I believe that this is all correct. I believe that this is correct. And I believe that we will yet receive a great deal of material from the republics; a great deal of material from the republics.

Yesterday representatives of the republics, first secretaries, many of them chairmen of supreme soviets or presidents, were at the Politburo session. I can say what a discussion it was. The discussion lasted from 1100 [0700 GMT] until almost 2200 in the evening. This is a matter that will embrace everyone, after all. They are already conveying what processes are taking place in the republics. There will be further orders from the Supreme Soviet, very considerable additions. All of this will make it possible in the final analysis to reach a single document and to make a choice. That was the second thing. Third, we must move and act, proceeding from what I said in my introduction, without waiting, comrades, until we have adopted the draft. We must move and act in this direction, without waiting, because there are many issues which we have to tackle by creating these forward defensive positions, as it were, in order to enter the market.

I believe that the deputies are correctly linking the market program transition with the destiny of our multinational state and what its future will be like. We should all bear this in mind constantly. We should bear it in mind, especially now, and especially in connection with the all-Union treaty. I think, I think that after the declarative euphoria—don't be offended, those of you who took part are in it. I welcome these declarations. They are in general a powerful stimulus to further the transformation process of our mutinational state. But there have been declarations and life has proceeded.

Indeed, I see during the work on the program for a transition to the market and during discussion of other issues the outline is becoming discernible and people are seeing realities. They are seeing we can cast ourselves out of this situation and move ahead together. Some people are tossing up ideas that are destructive economically, politically, and above all from the human viewpoint. Take, for instance, our friends from Moldavia. Where are they located? Yes, they are seated there. Some held a covnersation with me. Distortions and miscalculations in policy have led to a state of affairs where now, you know, in general the integrity of a compact, very dynamic, integrated, and interconnected republic is threatened.

So we must bear all this in mind. I will say to you there is a way out and to my mind it has already, by the common efforts there, been [word indistinct] on the basis of the approaches. Why is this? It is because, it turns out, that on various occasions in certain places, so to speak, and also in the declaration there has been no statement to the effect that Moldavia remains in the Soviet Union. That is all, whether it be called there cohabitation, a commonwealth, or something else. That is all, and this immediately, you know, whipped up this movement.

Comrades, how many times have we already spoken about this matter! Feeling particularly how under the influence of the declaration—I was in the Crimea—feeling that matters were, so to speak, cracking up to simply an incredible extent; what anxiety and alarm there was. The telegrams were piling up. I traveled to Odessa District to the maneuuvers, as they are called. (?If I had needed maneuvers... Yazov would have managed on his own, so to speak!) I went there to speak out and to use the occasion to speak to the officers and generals about their problems. Well, I spoke about the situation in the country—that is already clear—and the most important section concerned our Union and its fate and approaches. Indeed, whatever issue arises, whether it be the settlement of peoples in our multi-national territory which has taken shape over the centuries—all us brothers are mixed up, there has been a mixing of blood—people have their existences. Can you imagine what will be the case now when you toss up policies and forms of solution that bring peoples into opposition and collision? We will not be able to extract ourselves [words indistinct].

I am convinced and I say this in front of you and in front of the whole country that it would be a fatal choice and those who are pushing for this and are playing for absolute sovereignty... I have already spoken on this subject too. It is flirtation and populism, for which there is no place in politics. There is no place for this in politics. This applies even more so when policy concerns such issues and one needs to reorganize life afresh on their basis.

I think we need to travel along a different path. These are two processes that mutually complement each other. Economics has shown us this right away. After all the euophoria and declarations we have got down to matters and have begun discussions—I know in detail about the Shatalin group, but the same thing probably also happened in the governemnt group—and moved from some kind of commonwealth, generally, to a federation.

Because, you cannot get away from it, we have been formed in this way. We are as we are. We need... [changes thought] we have a level of cooperation higher than in the Common Market. We are more specialized, more dependent. If we start to pull things to pieces, then we will ruin them.

Just take our defense. When I spoke in Odessa I said: Well then, are 15 nuclear-armed states to appear in the world? This would make the whole word community tremble. This strategic system which has grown up and which is all interwoven—there, they know what this is—let us hack it up into 15 pieces. That is just an adventure. Only adventurists could propose this, just listen to me. Similarly, question after question. Just ask me any question.

Therefore, we must enter into a new federation, and we will certainly do so. Ways toward it already exist. Due to the way in which it was built our multi-national state cannot go on living in its old form. All that is also behind us. That was a unitary state where all these special features, these colossal human special features laid down by nature, you understand, were neglected. This cannot be. Therefore, we must be very responsible and (?dialectical) and when people say one of Gorbachev's claims is that he has brought down the Union, the Communist Party, socialism, East Europe, he has brought down the Union, and so on, this, of course, is not very nice to hear, but, comrades, I am convinced we are on the right path, but it is necessary that we [commotion in the hall] ...we are on the right path of changes in all spheres of our society.

In making the transformations, however, it is necessary to be aware of the boundaries beyond which there begin those irreparable things which can... [changes thought] I think such a situation exists now. We must be aware of this.

So, I take everything that has been said here and I say firmly, for the thousandth time: Yes, let us have a union, a union of sovereign states, linked very closely together, cooperating, having its own clearly defined powers, having both a center operating efficiently and republics living and operating efficiently. That is what we must seek to achieve. Concerning the extremities... it is a favorite activity in our country to fluctuate from one [extreme to another]... but we will not find the answers on the extremes.

Another question. I also support this, that the transfer to the market is directly linked with political stability in society, with the functioning of the authorites and administration. I have always considered and I still do consider this concept is well-founded. We are aware of some sort of first stages of paralysis of authority. We must not run away from this assessment. We must call a spade a spade, to draw the correct conclusions. You are drawing them. You have asked the right question and made the right proposals and, further, we must examine the question of powers, the question of agreement in the Union at this present stage between the republics and the center, on cooperation. We are to discuss this question today and I hope the first decisions of the Supreme Soviet will be supported by the Soviet people and I hope that you, too, will support them.

Now it is very important. All of our programs and calculations will begin to fall apart and, in general, life will get more complicated if we do not now recognize that we need...[changes thought] we all understand this. In this regard I would just like to say that it seems to me, according to some voices—they were here and I heard them—but at the same time, I see there is understanding in the Supreme Soviet that we must resolutely reject the idea of shaking up the system of authority and administration wherever it stems from at this stage of rapid changes. I am opposed to this. I am resolutely opposed to this.

Not because, not because today I am president and Ryzhkov is prime minister, and others are what they are. That is not the reason. It is simply that if at this crucial turning point, when historic things really do have to be done, if we all start shaking everything up throughout the whole country and the whole system, then it would be a gift for people with all kinds of aspirations, for the arrogant public which is prepared to exploit both the country and the need and everything. But I am categorically opposed to this approach. At the same time I said in my first speech before the debate and I want to say it now that the current real situation in society, the transition to the market and reforming the USSR require and make topical the task of introducing the necessary corrections to the mechanisms of power and government. This has to be done in a normal way. For this we have all the structures in order for us to adopt this process within the framework of high political standards, resolving these issues in a responsible way.

I think that we have all—there have already been many proposals of all kinds here—we are thinking everything over that is necessary so that all of this can be resolved without delay.

During the concluding stage I would like the work—it is just the first phase—during the concluding stage I would like there to be a deepening of this work, a consolidation. I think the people will support precisely this kind of approach, this approach. Furthermore the people expect from us some real movement along the road of stabilization in society and particularly on social and economic stabilization in the country. Thank you. [Applause]

Gorbachev Address Published

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[Speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU and USSR president, at 21 September USSR Supreme Soviet session: "Struggle for Perestroyka"]

[Text] I think that the discussion in the committees and at the Supreme Soviet plenary sittings realistically reflects the state of mind in our society and the people's alarm. This is caused by the real situation—both political and socioeconomic—and also by differing understandings of what the market is, how to approach it, and what it will mean for each person, for each family, and for the country as a whole. That is why I interpret this discussion politically, leaving aside all emotional comparisons and metaphors. Of course, the session is unusually crucial. A word which we have begun to utter increasingly rarely is appropriate here—that word is choice. How will we reform our society in the main sphere which determines all that follows—the entire tenor of life, what our Union will be like, what kind of morality there will be, and the entire complex of human relations? I want to say yet again that I listened very attentively to the comrades' speeches and tried to understand each one. I want to impart the impressions that I formed during the discussion. It looks as though the radical economic reform does not suit some people, they do not accept it. They probably also do not accept reality; they are prepared even now, under the very complex conditions when people expect action and a change in the situation, to prove that we should preserve what has been. No, I am sure that we have taken the correct direction.

Other people think that we have a lot of time, we still have time to talk, to think, to try things out, to experiment, to see what will happen. There is no time for that, comrades, that is the point! Destructive processes are under way in the economy, in the Union. Life is dictating to us vigorous decisions, deeds, and actions. Comrade Sukhov was right to say when he approached me: Mikhail Sergeyevich, I formed the impression after your speech that people are now demanding that you at least do something. The result is that someone has specially created a program to bring people to the state where they are prepared for everything, agree to everything, including the market and so forth. He repeated approximately the same thing when he delivered his speech. I constantly exchange opinions with Comrade Sukhov. His viewpoint comes from life itself and the perception of a working man now enriched by experience of parliamentary debates. All that is so. But, comrades, we do indeed have no time left for the additional reason that we can all see what state people are in now. We must resolve this problem and resolve it while nonetheless making headway.

I adhere to the critical remarks addressed against both programs, but particularly the program submitted by the president. But it is a bad thing—and I said this here before the start of the discussion—if we constantly fail to sense the special features of our country. They are very huge and very substantial, comrades. You cannot simply dismiss them. We must constantly consider the context and the society in which we are beginning the transition to the market. It is an overburdened economy. Is it really easy to implement a structural policy under the conditions of this economy? That is one element. And is one special feature not the varying development levels of our regions and republics? A special feature. And the economic problems which have accumulated? They really do exist. When people discuss the transition, that most important turning point, they ask: How will these problems be resolved during and after the transition? That must also be considered.

Finally, privatization. As soon as we utter the word privatization we immediately hear in response: You want to generate the private businessman, capitalism. But I think that privatization in the generally accepted sense is a change of owner. Under the conditions of our economy that means that we transfer the owner's rights from the state to the collectives, the people, individual citizens. I do not want to argue with Comrade Bunich right now. On the contrary, I share much of what he said. So far the program does not reveal this question exhaustively. I have in mind the mechanism of privatization and of the transfer of rights of ownership and property, for instance through buying back and so forth. But I think that total state property should now find its own owner and generate in this owner the motives for and interest in working, making effective use of property, and obtaining an income. That is what we should do. In our state with its history and traditions it is very important to determine how specifically to implement privatization. So that our task is not to eliminate state ownership but to put an end to the totally impersonal nature of ownership which has alienated men and repelled and ruined his interest in work. That again is our context, again our special feature.

And I must say that if you were to hold a further 30 sittings of the Supreme Soviet you would still not record everything or answer all questions. The answer will be given by experience of moving on the basis of common principles, on the basis of some common concept, on the basis of common approaches. And one more thing I should like to say. Some people may think: Here is what the president has submitted, it is the best program, it will be easier to cope with. But the government program: Perhaps it is more reliable? But I think that this criterion for assessing these options is not appropriate here. Let us not deceive either ourselves or the people whom we are urging to trust us, this Supreme Soviet, this government, these authorities, and to support us in this very hard struggle and decision. The transition will be difficult, that is clear from the scale and novelty of the work. The main thing today is to make the very difficult transition less painful. That particularly applies to people's vital interests. It is essential to include the broadest strata of society in this process, to make them accomplices in the good sense so that they can all set about the difficulties with understanding. In other words an initial stage is needed—a period of entry into the market. The market itself is definitively formed over five to 10 years. The market will appear and will then be formed. The process of entry into the market requires mechanisms which, on the one hand, offer protection against possible distortions and, on the other, safeguard the regime of transition. If we delay entry into the market we shall make this process painful. Nonetheless time is needed for entry so that the process can take place and market mechanisms can begin to operate and develop.

The Supreme Soviet, having demonstrated a broad spectrum of opinions, comprehensively examined the package of questions connected with the transition to the market, but the work has not yet been completed. In the discussion it was rightly noted that there is a great coincidence in the approaches toward the solution of problems at the transitional stage. And at the same time not a single draft—that is how I understand your opinion—can be adopted as definitive. That is also clear. Not a single draft. Is that a tragedy? No. I think it is a good thing that alternative drafts have appeared, that there is a large quantity of information, that your opinion has been created on the basis of many options. The drafts submitted by the president and the government and also the substantial and important proposals of the deputies and committees have made it possible to form the following opinion: A single draft should be prepared, taking as a basis the draft submitted by the president. Here it should be enriched as much as possible with the provisions set forth in the government program. Many comrades said that.

I believe that all this is correct, especially as we have yet to receive a large amount of material from the republics. Yesterday representatives of the republics at a Politburo session from morning until nearly 2200 hours discussed this question, which grips everyone. To judge by the processes which are taking place in the republics, very substantial additions are yet to come the way of the Supreme Soviet. So that all this will ultimately help us achieve a single document and make a choice.

But, comrades, we must move and act without waiting to adopt a draft. The deputies rightly link the implementation of the program for the transition to the market with the fate of our multinational state, with its future. We must constantly bear this in mind, especially in connection with the Union treaty.

Declarative euphoria—let those who have taken part in it not take offense—is in general a powerful impetus to the further process of transformations in our multinational state. But declarations have passed and life has come. And I can see that in elaborating the program for the transition to the market and in discussing other questions it is emerging that people can see the realities, can see that we will be able to extricate ourselves from this situation and make headway. There are also those who are offering an idea which is destructive from economic, political, and human standpoints. Our friends from Moldova are sitting there, I have talked with some of them. Distortions and blunders in policy have led to the point where the integrity of this quite compact, very dynamic, integrated, interconnected republic is now jeopardized.

Under the influence of the declaration adopted in Moldova, which did not contain a statement that Moldova would remain in the Soviet Union but mentioned cooperation or something of the kind, there has been a process of shattering, of the growth of alarm and disquiet. I was in the Crimea at the time and received a flood of telegrams.

I say with conviction to you and to the whole country that this will be a pernicious choice. Just take our defense: Should we produce 15 nuclear states? That sets the entire world community trembling. We are on the correct path of transformations in all spheres of our society. But in making these transformations we must see the boundary beyond which the irreparable begins.

That is why I state firmly once again: Yes, I am in favor of the Union. A union of sovereign states closely connected, cooperating, with their own clearly defined powers, center and republics operating effectively. We shall not find the answer in extremes.

And another thing. The transition to the market is directly connected with political stability in society, with the functioning of the organs of power and management. I used to believe and still believe that this way of putting it is justified. We must resolutely repel the idea of shaking up the system of power and management, whatever the origin of that idea. I am categorically against this approach. But the real situation, the transition to the market makes topical the task of introducing the necessary amendments to the mechanism of power and management. We have all the structures for implementing this process within the framework of political culture, resolving all questions responsibly. We will think out everything without delay. This can all be resolved. I should like at the decisive stage—after all this is only the first phase—there should be an intensification of this work, a consolidation. I think the people will support this approach, the people still expect from us real movement on the paths of stabilization in society, especially in the socioeconomic sphere.

Deputies Debate Presidential Power Resolution

Golik Presents Draft

LD2309214190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1928 GMT 23 Sep 90

[From a recording of the 21 September session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin]

[Text] [Announcer] In connection with the fact that we were unable to show the evening session of the USSR Supreme Soviet on Friday 21 September, and in connection with the importance of the issues discussed at it, we present a report on this sitting. [video shows session in progress] [Golik, speaking at rostrum] Esteemed colleagues! Submitted for your attention is a draft resolution on additional measures to stabilize the economic and sociopolitical life of the country.

[Lukyanov, chairing] Please pick up the draft, comrades, and look at it.

[Golik] In general, why is such a resolution needed? The aim is in the text, formulated thus: With the aim of stabilizing the situation in the country. The text defines the aim of altering the legislation promptly, and publishing this promptly in accordance with the Constitution; what the issuing of decrees of a normative character means. The president is granted the right to issue decrees of a normative character. The time limit for effect of this right is for a transitional period, but what this time will be, specifically, depends not on this, but on how the implementation of the program that we are to adopt proceeds. In the final analysis, or rather finally, paragraph one indicates specific powers and sketches out the range of areas in which these decrees may be issued. These are property relations; the organization and management of the national economy; the budget and finance system; wages and price formation; and the strengthening of law and order.

Finally, I would draw your attention to the fact that the functions of the parliament and the rights of the parliament to issue legislative acts on the same issues are in no case lost. They exist in parallel. Is it necessary to get parliament's agreement to the effect of this or that decree which the president may issue? Yes, of course it is necessary, but here the form of gaining approval is important. We have chosen the simplest and most effective form of approval—silence; silence as a mark of agreement. If the Supreme Soviet does not raise the issue of annulling or altering this decree, then that fact means it is automatically valid and is put into effect immediately. That is all.

Gorbachev Interviewed on Issue

LD2309225990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1938 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Remarks by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev at 21 September session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin in Moscow—recorded]

[Text] [Gorbachev] May I speak?

[Lukyanov] Yes.

[Gorbachev] Right, let us speak looking each other straight in the face, and, as they say, without pulling the wool over each other's eyes. When we speak of the situation in the country, when we speak of the situation in the country—and this is in every speech—we describe the situation as being extreme [chrezvychaynyy]; as being unstable both with regard to politics, on the economic level, and with regard to the law. Has there been a single speech without this, without this assertion? There has not. Everywhere there is the adjective extreme when we speak of our situation. Arising from this description of the extremity of the situation, in practically every or almost every other speech, proposals are voiced that we need extreme efforts, unity of efforts, the coordination of efforts, the interaction of all levels of power in order to halt the processes going in the direction they are now moving, to break through the situation, and to start acting using extreme methods. This is also heard. In other words, we are now in a dangerous situation, in dangerous conditions, or more correctly, conditions fraught with serious dangers. We have to act. We have to act.

Just watch when you are talking to people: There is everything—there are queues, the shelves are empty, you name it; but at the top of the list, in first place, there is the question of halting of stabilizing the situation, and to start moving in all directions toward normalization.

When we here are all talking about this, is not each one of us talking about power, about the fact that it is either not working or that it is paralyzed, or that it is not getting off the ground, and is having no effect? We are all saying this. Today the stumbling block to everything is that the system of executive power is not functioning. And just look: In the republics there are no deliveries between enterprises, between oblasts, but all appeals are going to the Government of the USSR. All of them.

In the Moscow Soviet, in the Leningrad Soviet, the situation is such that in the oblasts there are vegetables and produce. We have to act. It is an extreme situation. Every day it rains. Who does not understand this? There are writers who are saying out loud that it is necessary to introduce extreme measures. I consider that this would be premature and an inadequate reaction to the situation, as if we had already exhausted everything we can do. This would be incomprehensible. This, you know, would give strength to those who are against perestroyka. They would say: That has put an end to perestroyka. Thank God, now we will take everything and turn the wheel back.

That is what I wanted to say. It is not a matter of lack of respect for the Supreme Soviet. Now it is simply a matter of a forced action which the Supreme Soviet is taking. It is right to do so and to delegate some of its powers in a real political situation during the transitional stage, when it will be really necessary to bring in mechanisms and to make decisions, decisions which it might be necessary to make within two or three days. What, will we be able to make any urgent decision like this? I think you realize we cannot. So for all these ends, so as to strengthen the legal system—just look how things have gotten out of hand, what forces there are; you see, vandalism is rife. I think we have reached the stage where we cannot turn a blind eye, and I am embarking consciously upon this, and ask that such powers be granted. And we shall act.

Gorbachev on Executing Decrees

LD2309230690 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1944 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Remarks by Mikhail Gorbachev in reply to question from Sakhalin deputy Zhdakayev at 21 September evening session of USSR Supreme Session held in the Kremlin in Moscow—recorded]

[Text] [Zhdakayev] Mikhail Sergeyevich, I have been listening carefully—deputy Zhdakayev from the island of Sakhalin—I have been listening carefully to your passionate speech and I liked it. I am saying this absolutely seriously. Nevertheless, it wasn't inquisitiveness that brought me here to the microphone, because many people are awaiting an answer today: Why are your decrees not being fulfilled? When will they start to be fulfilled? That's one thing. And what measures will be adopted by you in the future to prevent your decrees from not being fulfilled? I should like to hear this from you.

[Gorbachev] Fine. I could develop this in greater detail, but I shall speak on the level of principle. Wherever contradictions occur and the USSR Constitution is infringed, not a single instance has gone without an assessment by the president. Decrees have been adopted and I believe that they have juridical force, and those acts with regard to which they have been adopted are without juridical force. The process is now proceeding, but nevertheless it comes about that people listen but go on in the same way; they continue.

How should it be? How should it be? I believe that the first thing is to draw a political conclusion, to advance the political processes and legislative activity more quickly, and to advance the distribution of competences more quickly in order to take account of the fact, nevertheless, that we are in a stage of profound revolutionary changes. And I, as a person who is linked to these changes and, as it were, who has staked everything I have on this during my life, I cannot act in such a way as to go for people's throats, as a poet said. But the processes have now taken on such a scale that they might break loose. They have already broken loose in certain aspects. These might turn into great losses, including the downfall of this perestroyka process of ours.

Therefore, we must act now with greater resolution—I am coming to this—on the basis of laws and within the context of the law, in order to prove that we are carrying out this whole process of emerging into democracy, into a new society of a political culture, of the general culture through these methods. If we in this country of ours—for which we bear responsibility—if we implement everything that we have thought up peacefully, it will be the first time this has been done in the history of this country. Although they try to plant things on us. Those who at one time—for a year or a year and a half—spoke in favor of political pluralism now understand political pluralism in this way: If there are opponents, then we must reduce them to a pulp, crush them, at least throw them out of there, from a particular structure. This is the culture of all those forces which often describe themselves as democrats, even great democrats.

So, the most important task now is to struggle for democracy and for perestroyka, and I am making this appeal deliberately; I hope that this, these actions, will now be supported in society. If the point at issue here is that the president is giving out decrees at the limits of the Constitution and the law—a strict interpretation of the Constitution—this right is then given to him. The more so since, I hope, the person sitting before you will not act so that these rights... [changes thought] And you in the event of disagreement will immediately put it in question and recall him. All the mechanisms are clear here. I, as president, also wish to convince myself that the Supreme Soviet will be beside me. Do I really intend, so to speak, to mess things up in such a way that all of society would be unable to sort it out afterward? No, no. But everyone must now show character and will.

Defense Committee Considers Economic Plan 19 Sep

PM2109102390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Committee Sitting"]

[Text] A sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Defense and State Security Questions was held in Moscow 19 September to examine the program, submitted for discussion by USSR people's deputies, on stabilizing the national economy and switching to a regulated market economy. The committee members were particularly concerned about the lack of legal and economic protection for enterprises in the defense sectors of industry.

Committee Debates Decree on Servicemen's Rights

PM2109113590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by Captain 2d Rank V. Urban under the rubric "At the USSR Supreme Soviet Session": "What Kind of Guarantees Will Military Servicemen Have?"]

[Text] Deputies began work in parliamentary committees and commissions Wednesday. The main question now being discussed is how to stabilize the national economy and make the transition to a regulated market economy. Deputies are also raising other problems which will be discussed at the session to various degrees. For example, the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Questions of Glasnost and Citizens' Rights and Appeals has decided to study the progress in implementing the recent USSR Presidential Decree "On Some Measures to Strengthen the Social and Legal Protection of Military Servicemen."

Major General L. Ivashov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Administration of Affairs, delivered an information report to the committee sitting Wednesday. He began by answering a question which interests deputies more than any other: What is the reason for the low level of legal protection for military servicemen? It goes without saying that there are objective reasons for this. Service relations are strictly regulated and military service sometimes involves risk to life and very great psychological and physical demands. All this leaves a serious mark on Army life.

At the same time, the rights with which military servicemen are invested under the regulations are often simply on paper, Maj. Gen. L. Ivashov said. Many documents which regulate Army service are not laws but delegated legislation. The USSR Law on Universal Military Service adopted in 1967 is also out of step with the times.

We must also add that, in a number of regions—the Baltic, in particular—local organs of power simply violate the rights of servicemen and make them second-class citizens. There have been very mixed reactions in the Army to the rapid withdrawal of our troops from Hungary and Czechoslovakia, as it is impossible to quickly provide every necessary facility at their new posts. The Defense Ministry has been involved in drafting the relevant agreements, incidentally. For example, it proposed that the withdrawal schedule be extended to three or four years, but this recommendation was not adopted.

I do not think there is any point in continuing to list the reasons for the low level of servicemen's legal and social protection. These reasons are well known to our readers. So we will dwell instead, albeit briefly, on the measures proposed by the Defense Ministry to ensure implementation of the USSR presidential decree. Maj. Gen. L. Ivashov informed deputies that draft laws on defense and on the status of military servicemen, a draft provision on Army service, and draft service regulations are either ready to be submitted to the Supreme Soviet or are having the finishing touches put to them.

The main purpose of this legislation is to define the status of military servicemen as representatives of the state with clear-cut legal and social guarantees. In particular, it will define the procedure for servicemen's social insurance and for the possibility of conscripts doing alternative service (in other words in a civilian environment). It is also planned to reduce the length of compulsory service and use a contract system in the recruitment of sergeants and petty officers.

Colonel L. Smirnov, a representative of the USSR Defense Ministry Internal Troops Main Directorate, touched on the same subject in his speech to the committee sitting. He stressed that some 20,000 Internal Troops servicemen are permanently stationed in regions of interethnic conflict and that they perform highly complex tasks to protect public order. But it cannot be said that these people have clear legal guarantees. Col. L. Smirnov named several benefits provided for them by the Council of Ministers. For example, in the event of being seriously injured, servicemen receive a lump sum allowance of 400 rubles [R]; they are given an allowance of R200 if slightly injured. Personnel clearly feel that this is not enough. A law on Internal Troops is now being drafted in order to ensure that servicemen's social and legal guarantees reflect the nature of the tasks they perform.

The speaker also touched on problems connected with transferring to the principle of voluntary recruitment into a number of Internal Troops operational subunits. Referring to budgetary difficulties, the Council of Ministers has proposed that the experiment be conducted within the framework of the ministry. Naturally, this limits the possibilities as far as the financial and legal aspects of the experiment are concerned. As Col. L. Smirnov said, it is not so easy to find eager volunteers for R300: Many are simply not satisfied with this kind of wage. Consequently, subunits recruiting on a contractual basis are still looking for volunteers.

Representatives of the Defense Ministry and the Internal Troops Main Directorate answered deputies' questions. The committee will return to the problems raised at the sitting.

Deputies Consider Forming Communist Faction

PM2109103590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1

[Report by S. Karkhanin under the rubric "Debate in the Kremlin": "Communists in Parliament"]

[Text] Members of the Politburo and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee had a meeting in the Kremlin 19 September with Communist members of the USSR Supreme Soviet and USSR people's deputies elected from the CPSU. A participant in the meeting—Ye.Ye. Kim, member of the deputies' International Affairs Committee—shares his impressions of it:

I must say right away that not all the party members in the country's parliament attended the meeting. Precisely 37 Supreme Soviet members have quit the party. Some USSR people's deputies were unable to come to Moscow because of the pressure of their main work. Yet there were more than 200 deputies in the hall. We discussed what I consider a question of great importance; this is that under conditions of the approaching multiparty system, with a social democrats' faction having already appeared in our Supreme Soviet and, evidently, a faction of members of the Russian Democratic Party soon to emerge, Communist USSR people's deputies must also have the opportunity to pool their efforts and to organize.

It is known that this idea has long been in the air, as it were. And many participants in the meeting emphasized in their statements that some kind of structure must be created. Should it be called a party group? Objections were heard: We do not want it to be associated with the old structures that existed in the Supreme Soviet of past convocations. However, the following voices were also heard: It is pointless to be afraid, and things must be called by their proper names. In general, it will probably be more accurate to speak of a faction.

True, the USSR Constitution says nothing about factions. Consequently, now it is hardly possible to create a parliamentary faction, so to speak, in a pure form from the Communist deputies. Many speakers inclined toward organizing for the time being a bureau or a committee to examine this problem. In addition, it was emphasized that regular contacts between the CPSU's leaders and Communist deputies would be very useful.

An important point—the future faction must not be rigidly centralized. Tolerance of a variety of opinions should be taken as its fundamental principle, which, of course, does not exclude the agreeing of positions. In the faction, as in a party club, its members will be able to exchange opinions and consult with one another. The future will show how to organize work subsequently. At the same time many of the meeting participants believe that membership of the faction must not be compulsory for all Communist deputies. On the other hand, it seems to me that a Communist with a deputy's mandate does not have the right to stay silent if it is a question of very important problems of the country's life.

Deputy V. Romanenko declared: It would have been possible to confine ourselves to consultations among his colleagues elected, like himself, from the trade unions. I objected: The All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions works only with deputies elected from the trade unions, although, as is known, the overwhelming majority of us are in trade unions. But what about the rest? And it is not a question of the CPSU's leaders working only with deputies elected from the party. No, efforts must be combined with all Communist deputies elected to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Communists now make up approximately 80 percent of the country's Supreme Soviet. But, as speakers pointed out, they need to be organized. Deputies put their suggestions to the CPSU leadership, and one of these suggestions concerned the ideological sphere. In the pages of the party press a well-reasoned rebuff must be dealt to attacks on the CPSU and to the slanderous and provocative articles appearing in certain newspapers, which fan interethnic strife in particular.

An accord was reached that meetings like this one will be held on the eve of discussions of very important issues in the Supreme Soviet and at the CPSU Central Committee, so that the party's leaders know the position of Communist USSR people's deputies on the main burning problems of the life of the country and the party. It was decided to entrust the preparatory work on creating the future faction to the primary party organization of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which already has many Communist deputies on its books.

Concluding the meeting, O.S. Shenin, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out that, in his opinion, it had been useful. I think so too. It is another matter that the work on creating the faction ought to have been started long ago, particularly as the CPSU Central Committee has repeatedly received such suggestions from Communist deputies. Still, better late than never.

TV Coverage of Parliamentary Session Assessed

PM2109112590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 7

[Article by Professor Vilen Yegorov, member of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting Collegium and rector of the All-Union Institute for Raising Qualifications: "Parliament Under Television Scrutiny"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] For more than a year now, reports from the session halls of the Union parliament and of republic and local parliaments have become an inalienable part of television broadcasting. That is totally understandable. The fate of the country is decided at congresses and sessions, and its future determined in debates and discussions. Viewers' interest in this first-hand information is obvious. But the time has come to assess our experience, which is sometimes highly complex. IZVESTIYA readers have proposed that this be done. Professor Vilen Yegorov, member of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting Collegium and rector of the All-Union Institute for Raising Qualifications, ponders on this subject below. [passage omitted]

I have read viewers' letters and I know that many are irritated by the long, systematic broadcasts until 0200 or 0300, several days in sucession. And on several channels at once. The initial interest in these broadcasts—to be frank, the global interest—has gone. People's expectations of rapid changes for the better, virtually the minute the debates came to an end, have not been justified. Whereas originally viewers were afraid that direct broadcasts might be stopped, a year later they often did not watch them anymore anyway. It is a pity that the broadcasting organizers did not immediately recall the old maxim that overkill is also a fault and detrimental to the task at hand. Perhaps it would be worthwhile to allocate a specific evening slot for televised parliamentary proceedings, with the regularity of filling it depending on the intensity of parliamentary activity. Perhaps then, with viewers aware of when meetings with deputies are scheduled, the televised coverage of parliamentary activity can develop into a proper system whereby deputies' discussions do not push aside arts programs and movies.

At the moment, however, a paradoxical situation has taken shape. The sheer volume of information on the course of parliamentary discussions is vast, but clear, precise knowledge about the real situation in the country is not as great as it could be. Most viewers are confused and vague, for example, on what is meant by a market economy, how the transition to it should be made, what is meant by marketing, managers, and stock exchanges, and what the difference is between a leaseholder, shareholder, and member of a cooperative. But it would be good to know about all these things, as they are the realities of our life today.

Of course, broadcasters are considering a more sensible, flexible approach to televising parliament at work. But there is no doubt that deputies themselves should also give some thought to this. Parliament's use of such a serious instrument as television for shaping public opinion is a very responsible job. The effect could be far more significant than simply giving viewers virtually unlimited access to parliamentary proceedings. Both television and parliament must be aware of this and take it into consideration....

Political & Social

Gorbachev Chairs CPSU Politburo Session

*PM2209140590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
22 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1*

[TASS report: "Party Assistance for Reform"]

[Text] Within the framework of preparation for the CPSU Central Committee plenum, the latest Central Committee Politburo session, held 20 September, examined the situation in the country and the party organizations' tasks in connection with the economy's transition to market relations. Taking part were members of the Politburo, first secretaries of the Union republic Communist Party Central Committees, CPSU Central Committee secretaries, scientists and specialists, statesmen and public figures. M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, led the session.

The participants in the session noted that the country is on the eve of important decisions. The country's Supreme Soviet, with the republics' participation and relying on broad public opinion, is elaborating a system of fundamental transformations in the economy. Their implementation, the session stressed, demands the stabilization of the situation in the country and the assertion of an atmosphere of social consensus in whose formation the Communists can and must play an enormous role.

The need for the closer pooling of the efforts of the leadership in the center and locally to rectify the situation and overcome crisis phenomena was cited as the priority task. Active participation in stabilization measures, in the consolidation of discipline and order, and in the establishment of a production rhythm and mutually advantageous economic ties, the session stressed, is today an important task of the party organizations. The reform itself is in need of their active businesslike support.

The 28th party congress made a historic choice in favor of the introduction of market relations in the economy, without which its effectiveness cannot be raised today. Here the CPSU firmly defends and will continue to defend the working person's social guarantees and our socialist choice.

How to create an atmosphere of trust in the reform on the part of the broad masses and to raise to its successful implementation all that is efficient and talented in our people? That was the main leitmotif of the thorough, comprehensive, principled analysis and discussion that took place at the Politburo session and was the logical continuation of the discussion at the previous session.

It was deemed expedient to submit the collective ideas, conclusions, assessments and proposals formed as the Politburo's position at the forthcoming Central Committee plenum. Its date was specified—8 October 1990.

CPSU Central Committee Plenum Scheduled 8 Oct

LD2109185490 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—The Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee examined on Thursday the situation in the country and the tasks of party oganisations in connection with the economy's transition to market relations.

The meeting was a part of preparations for a plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The meeting was chaired by Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Meeting participants noted that the country is on the eve of important decisions. The Soviet parliament with the participation of republics and relying on broad public opinion is hammering out a system of sweeping changes in the economy.

The meeting stressed that their implementation needs the stabilisation of the situation in the country and an atmosphere of social concord, in the formation of which communists can play an important role.

The need to pool efforts of the leadership in the centre and in localities to improve the situation and to overcome the crisis was called a top priority task.

Speakers noted that active participation in stabilising measures and in efforts to strengthen law and order, organise smooth industrial work and establish mutually advantageous economic relations is an important task of party organisations.

The meeting found it expedient to submit collective ideas, conclusions, appraisals and proposals as a position of the politburo to the forthcoming plenary meeting of the Central Committee.

It is planned to call the plenum on October 8.

Politburo Members, Deputies Discuss Plenum

LD2209161890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] A meeting has taken place in the Kremlin between members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR people's deputies who are communists. They discussed preparations for the next plenum of the party Central Committee and the position of the CPSU toward the draft laws which are planned to be adopted at the fourth session of the country's Supreme Soviet. Apart from this, issues of the CPSU's participation in economic transformations and problems of the transfer to market relations were touched upon.

Ryzhkov Addresses Council of Ministers

LD2209184990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Particular alarm over the critical situation surrounding the final stages of harvesting was voiced at an expanded sitting of the USSR Council of Ministers, held today with the participation of the Union republics.

The USSR Council of Ministers has made it incumbent on all ministries and official departments whose job it is to ensure the production of material and technical resources for the countryside to establish the most rigorous monitoring of the progress made in delivering them until such time as the harvest work is completed to avoid any disruption to the supply of fuel, packaging, and other materials. Comrade Ryzhkov spoke at the sitting.

A decision was passed on the issues discussed, which will be published in the press.

Ryzhkov Interviewed on Economic Reform Issues

LD2309204990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1744 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Interview with Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, by correspondent Vadim Lobachenko; place and date not given; from the "In the USSR Government" program—live or recorded]

[Text] [Lobachenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, last week was full of tremendous events in the life of our people, especially with the discussion at the USSR Supreme Soviet session of the program of programs—that is, the draft programs for the stabilization of the national economy and transition to the market economy. Well, we are all dreaming, as it were, of a promised land, of the country that will emerge after we have gone over to the market economy—a rich, prosperous, free country for us and our children—and how to get to it more or less painlessly is what the dispute now involves. This is what the draft of the government program and the Shatalin draft involve. How do you assess the progress of the debates in the USSR Supreme Soviet?

[Ryzhkov] Good evening, esteemed comrades. Yes, the week really was extremely difficult, difficult in the parliamentary struggle because starting from Monday and ending on Friday [17-21 September] there was discussion of the two programs presented for the examination of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The debates were heated. I did not expect them to be otherwise because this is such a serious question; it so much affects not only the life of each Soviet person, but it also determines the future of our country and not only on an economic plane but also the sociopolitical organization of our state. Therefore, it is natural that such questions require very serious debate and I said that in this case they should be measured not seven times but much more, they should perhaps be measured 100 times before a particular decision is adopted. So, the debates were heated but there were very many constructive proposals, which in my view will make it possible to take a different approach to the solution of particular questions.

These two programs were discussed. They have very much in common, much in common, because the transition to the market takes place in accordance with definite laws and they are the same, these laws, for the one program and for the other. But there are a number of fundamental differences on which there is very heated dispute and the government is here assuming a position of principle and I would like to tell viewers, all Soviet people, once more, that it is not because of the stubbornness of the government, it is not because of loyalty to the flag that we are standing on certain definite positions. The fact is that on some points we believe these sections from that program cannot be accepted today. They cannot. The country is simply not ready for their implementation.

We call our program moderately radical. Well, the press, as they say, dubbed it radical. On the whole there is a certain sense in this. We want to go toward the market more moderately. Those experts, however, propose going quickly. That is the whole difference.

You know, I am still under the impression of the Council of Ministers Presidium's sitting, which has just been held here. Today we have examined issues connected with the agrarian complex, and of course we thought about the future, including how to move over to the market in the agrarian complex. I have once again been convinced we are right. We are indeed right. No sharp turns should be made in the economy and the life of the people today: It could turn out to cost our country too high a price.

[Lobachenko] Is the economy in a weak state?

[Ryzhkov] The economy is in a weak state. Furthermore, we have for decades worked within a specific system and the entire infrastructure has been created precisely to suit this system; and we are simply unprepared for moving over to a completely new system. To say nothing of being psychologically unprepared, we are unprepared from the point of forms of organization, of mutual relations between the republics and between enterprises. For the market, after all, is freedom: whereas we have worked in terms of directives and instructions.

[Lobachenko] Any program, even the most brilliant, will be ineffective, if conditions in the country are not taken into account. You will recall the saying: It all went smoothly on paper, but they forgot about the ravine. Yet, it is along the ravine that one must go. We have a very great many ravines at the moment.

[Ryzhkov] This is why we clearly have, alongside much that coincides, fundamental disagreements, of course. The main issue goes beyond the sphere of the economy: What sort of union is ours to be, what sort of state are we to have? Either it will be a strong, united, sovereign—I stress, sovereign—state, in which... which unites sovereign republics, Union and autonomous republics. Or, it will be some sort of economic union of wholly independent states, united with one another only on some sort of principles, according to some specific interests. This radically alters the approach to the future of our country, as is said. We therefore built the entire concept of our program precisely on the basis that we should create an economy such as would unite the country; which would enable us to utilize the advantages of our vast territories and vast wealth, the advantages of its geographical location. I see a great deal of sense in this.

There are, of course, a number of other fundamental issues upon which common points of view have not yet been found. For instance, the people, people generally, are very much concerned about the question of privatization: What is privatization? What is private property? You know, after the last broadcast a very large number of telegrams and letters poured in, saying we should not approach the elimination of subsidies so abrubtly. Miners are writing in a great deal at the moment. If subsidies to the coal industry, for instance, are stopped now, many mines will turn out to be unprofitable and will quite simply close. It is not only miners who are writing in about this.

These questions are of very serious concern to people and we also consider we must approach these problems in a very well-balanced manner. As always, people are worried of course by the issues of price setting. Enterprises are interested first and foremost by price setting in the areas of production and agriculture. People are worried, naturally, by retail prices. I know the proposals we put forward earlier met with very great criticism then. The population, the people, came out against price increases but now the opposite situation is taking shape. After all, the other program speaks of free prices. If, in conditions of our monopolism, with our shortages, we let prices go, they will strongly increase.

So, we have said it is necessary to restrict this increase for certain basic foodstuffs, for consumer goods in certain categories, restrict it to a certain level, and fix prices at a certain level, and not let them further increase. If they increase, then it will be altogether difficult for people to live, and so we think we are right. We are right and life suggests we are right. Even from the Supreme Soviet speeches by the chairmen of committees and commissions who reported, they are now inclined to a greater degree to accept precisely our outline for price formation. So, there are certain questions on which, as they say, no points of approximation have yet been found, but these have to be worked on.

We do in fact possess a vast amount of information. We are in practice keeping our finger on the pulse of the national economy, as they say, on the pulse of the economy, on the pulse of the whole public life of our country. So we can see what is happening. We must not divorce ourselves from the realities. We must realistically approach the state of affairs in our economy, and correspondingly, on this basis, as they say, we must conduct the reforms.

You see, you cannot set the task of transferring to the market in the course of 100 days or 500 days. That is not reality, after all. The transition... it is only the start of the transition to the market. I understand that a year or a year and a half represents only the first steps of a transition to the market. The transition to the market itself, to perfecting market relations, and to a situation in which society lives and functions in a new system, will require years; years, not days. You cannot calculate the whole thing in days and months. You can only calculate some steps, the first steps, this way.

In discussing the draft decision, in my opinion, certain compromise decisions will be found.

I came forward with the proposal in the Supreme Soviet that a single program should be created on the basis of the two programs, that, nevertheless, the two programs should not be brought out, should not be presented separately for examination by the Supreme Soviets of the Union republics, but nevertheless, that they should be worked upon, first one program should be taken again, and the second program, and, as the saying goes, attempts should be made to unite them.

[Lobachenko] To find a consensus, yes? (?The best)?

[Ryzhkov] Yes, to find a common solution, even if there remain certain differences of opinion there, well then, there can be one or two differences of opinion in the two versions, one can say: When you come to examine it, please look at one version and the second version. On the whole, we need to find a solution in a single program. We have the basis, two programs.

[Lobachenko] We are meeting after the sitting of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium. The question, which concerns people now, of the harvest of potatoes and vegetables was discussed, among others.

[Ryzhkov] It is a very serious and very complex situation. When we analyzed this week what is being done in the country regarding storing potatoes, fruits, and vegetables, and we saw the situation is much worse than it was last year. We were forced to invite leaders of the republics here urgently, to assemble, and today there was, I will say, a tough conversation, unpleasant, a tough and unpleasant conversation, but what can be pleasant when, we, well, only at best, have brought in only one third of the harvest of potatoes and vegetables. After all, only two to three weeks are left. If we do not put the situation right in the course of two to three weeks, well, many cities, may find themselves without potatoes and vegetables.

[Lobachenko] Potatoes are the second staple.

[Ryzhkov] Yes, potatoes are the second staple. We are very concerned. Although, the matter is proceeding in different ways. We are very concerned about Moscow and Leningrad. I want to cite some data. That is material I have at my disposal, had at my disposal for today's sitting. As of 17 September, only 400,000 hectares of vegetables, or 39 percent of the area sown to them has been brought in. In Russia, 33 percent has been harvested, that is to say, one third, in the Ukraine - 37 percent, in Belorussia - 22 percent, Kazakhstan - 29 percent, Moldavia - 52 percent. Moscow, Leningrad... What is happening in Moscow and Leningrad? In Moscow, 555,000 potatoes [as heard] must be put in winter storage, that is, half a million tonnes. As of 18 September, I have the data of 18 September, but I do not think it has changed a great deal, 12,000 [unit not specified], or 2.0 percent, 2.0 percent of the whole amount had been laid in.

[Lobachenko] An insignificant amount.

[Ryzhkov] Well, 2.0 percent. You can picture for yourself what that is. I am not saying anything about vegetables, there, or about fruits. Leningrad, 270,000 tonnes have to be laid in winter storage, 28,000 tonnes [Lobachenko interrupts, "potatoes, that is."] of potatoes have been laid in store, 10 percent. Of course, we are very worried about what will happen, at the end of the day. Today we began to investigate in detail what is happening. In the first place, there really are objective reasons. The weather we are having just now, as they say...

[Lobachenko, interrupting] ...a wet autumn.

[Ryzhkov] Yes, it is a long time since we have had such a wet autumn. Today, Belorussia and Russia delivered a report here; of course, many oblasts are up to their knees in water, and potatoes literally have to be picked from the water.

The second thing is, I think this is a purely subjective cause. We can see the system we had before is today in essence falling apart in many regions. Never, not one single year, have the rural areas managed without the help of townspeople in harvesting vegetables and potatoes. Never. This has never happened, and I do not know when it will, so evidently a long time will be needed, but there has always been a sort of mutual understanding, as they say, and everyone has to tackle this question very vigorously. We feel today this mutual understanding does not exist. There is confrontation between one soviet and another, between a town soviet, let us say, and a rural soviet, between a town executive committee and a rural executive committee. In the final analysis however, we must understand that if we do not take measures now, people simply will not get their potatoes.

[Lobachenko] Though the yield is good.

[Ryzhkov] Though the yield is good. We cannot allow this. This is why I will say there was a lot of criticism addressed to Moscow today, to the effect that Moscow is behaving with great indifference towards these problems...

[Lobachenko, interrupting] Not our business?

[Ryzhkov] Yes, someone or other ought to do something about it. Those chairmen of councils of ministers who spoke here said that in the last resort, they cited lots of examples, that from the south, from Central Asia, from

Uzbekistan, say, we could have sent you extra vegetables, sent the fruit, say, which is there in those republics. But what sort of indifference is this? Just the opposite: A comrade from Azerbaijan spoke and read out a whole paper, saying rayons a, b, c—listing them—of the town of Moscow, are refusing to receive, let us say, fruit. (?He says, is it you who) are forcing us? (?Well, forcing...) We are appealing he says, but no one wants it.

[Lobachenko] Have the consumers asked us about this?

[Ryzhkov] I asked the comrades who were there, to say what the prices are in Moscow, and what the prices are in Murmansk. Right? It turned out that prices for vegetables and fruit in Murmansk...

[Lobachenko, interrupting] In the markets?

[Ryzhkov] Yes, in the markets, were lower than in Moscow. But, after all, Moscow is in the center. It is a bit far to Murmansk, as they say.

[Lobachenko] In this connection can it not be said that there is a degree of sabotage?

[Ryzhkov] I do not exclude that, against a background of general disorder, against a background of the general decline in discipline that we really can see in the country. There are, of course, people who, in my opinion, quite simply, are on to a good thing here. Today's analysis demonstrates, for example, there is a need to deliver potatoes and vegetables and money is paid even... you do not deliver. [sentence as heard] You do not deliver in order to avoid bringing prices at the markets down, say. Of course, what else can it be called other than sabotage? For this reason, I believe our law-keeping bodies are not earning their keep in this sense. The law-keeping bodies and the public and the local government bodies must rouse themselves to combat this. You and I are aware of what is going on in Moscow. Why are the prices at the markets always one and the same? Do you suppose this is mere chance? So, someone's in command of this, whole groups of people. I think people at the local level need quite simply to rise up and fight back, to fight back so they do not pull us down into an abyss of troubles, these people. So, I do think people who are on to a good thing at the decline in discipline do exist. For this reason, we need to take very serious measures.

No state, no person can exist or live normally without order and we can see today that there is less and less order every month. We have to say to all people once again today that if we are thinking of having potatoes and vegetables we have to go into the fields today, however hard it may be there. We have to go and help the countryside. In two to three days we will prepare a draft resolution from the government, jointly with the governments of the Union republics, and we have to take emergency measures. I do not like these words: emergency situation, special situation. I think, however, that in this instance we must introduce something along those lines. We have to once again mobilize the working collectives today, even to the extent perhaps of closing some establishments for a while. We will survive, evidently. With a situation like this, however, it will be too late in two or three weeks' even. We must once again take road transport from the towns, get the military involved again, and the military schools, get the cadets out to bring in the harvest. Those two to three weeks will be decisive and I think we are now in need of any measures whatsoever, economic ones and adminstrative ones at the same time. In this instance, in the situation we find ourselves in today regarding potatoes, vegetables, and fruit, we do need administrative measures too. Let us keep our criticism until later.

Once we have everything in, we can criticize why everything turns out this way in our country. Today's analysis of the issues of the agrarian sector has shown that discipline is falling drastically, drastically. Sometimes it is simply hard to explain why meat is not delivered, or milk, or fruit. People say: we need it. Well, of course, everyone needs it. But there is the discipline of the plan, responsibility, contractual responsibility after all. If, now, we again let things get worse with foodstuffs, if we do not introduce discipline and responsibility, we may find ourselves in an extremely complicated situation. The government, jointly with the Councils of Ministers of the Union republics, will now be taking every measure to rectify the situation. We cannot permit, we cannot permit the population to be without vitally needed foodstuffs like potatoes, vegetables, and fruit.

[Lobachenko] Thank you, Nikolay Ivanovich. Good luck with your difficult work.

[Ryzhkov] Thank you and all the best, comrades.

Akhromeyev Worried About Attitude Toward Army

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[Interview with "Gorbachev's military adviser" Marshal Sergey Fedorovich Akhromeyev by Christian Schueller in Moscow on 21 September—recorded; Akhromeyev statements in Russian with superimposed German translation]

[Text] [Schueller] Mr. Marshal, quite a few people in the USSR are worried about the Army. Is this not also due to the fact that at the moment there is a lot of unrest within the Army because of the economic reform?

[Akhromeyev] No, no, the Army supports any change and any reform as long as it remains within the boundaries of the law and the Constitution. In other words, we support all decisions of the Supreme Soviet and the People's Congress. What really worries us is something else. We are worried because many forces of this society have taken a negative attitude toward us.

[Schueller] How does this unrest express itself? Is it just talk in the officers' mess room or is it more?

[Akhromeyev] It is not expressed in a different way than the unrest that has become noticeable among all the other segments of Soviet society. For example, we are attacked by a newspaper and we protest against it. Another example: A certain republic adopts resolutions that are clearly unconstitutional and we say that we do not support such resolutions.

[Schueller] Nevertheless, there have also been certain inexplicable incidents such as recently in Ryazan?

[Akhromeyev] Why, what happened in Ryazan?

[Schueller] I was not there myself because we are banned from this zone, yet according to Yeltsin's description an entire battalion of airborne troops appeared near Moscow.

[Akhromeyev] All this is due to the fact that here people are always immediately seized with panic in connection with the Army. Like every year, we are preparing for the October parade during which certain units march toward Moscow. Immediately a deputy rises from his seat stating that the Army is marching on Moscow. Yet this is a march toward Moscow and not on Moscow, if you know what I mean?

[Schueller] Do the people also understand what you mean?

[Akhromeyev] Yes, they do. The people understand a lot, and the people support the Army.

Work of KGB Eighth Directorate Described

90UF0547A Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
16 Sep 90 Second Edition p 2

[Article by G. Ovcharenko: "In the Holy of Holies of Security—A Journalist Has Crossed the Threshold of the Eighth Main Directorate of the USSR KGB for the First Time"]

[Text] Moscow—TOP SECRET

I picked up the receiver and dialed the telephone number which I had procured with difficulty: I was calling the leader of the country's special service.

"What is your request?" he asked.

"I need to encode an appeal to the reader," I explained. "And the key must be in the issue of the newspaper that will carry my article about your service."

"Where should I send it?.."

...The Volga, equipped with a secure radio-telephone, slowed at the metal door of a building in Kuntsevo District. The door did not have the sign on it that is so common for enterprises and institutions. I automatically reached into my pocket for my press identity card.

"Do not bother," smiled the man accompanying me, waving the guard aside. "You are the first journalist in our home, and we will do without the formalities."

At one of the landings I glanced out a window: It was a courtyard like any other, green, well-groomed. But along the high concrete wall, like at a border, stretches a strip of freshly-turned earth guarded by a submachine gunner. I recalled their parting words at the USSR KGB Center for Public Relations: "Our Eighth Main Administration is the holy of holies of our country's security"...

When you consider that hundreds of millions of reports, telephone conversations, and huge volumes of computer data—and everything that is designated not for foreign eyes and ears—are transmitted using secure communications channels in our country alone, it becomes clear that the preservation of the secrecy of this information is the basis of the country's security. This is the job of those workers of the USSR KGB who are employed in the "Eighth," which is headed by Lieutenant General N. Andreyev, candidate of technical sciences and a great fan of all kinds of brain-teasers, badminton, and skiing.

"Our special service," said Nikolay Nikolayevich, "guarantees the protection of information using various codes. The main area of our activity is cryptography, about which practically nothing has been reported in our press."

"And what is cryptography?"

"It encompasses several branches of modern mathematics as well as special fields of physics, radio electronics, communications, and several other adjacent fields. Its task is to use mathematical methods to modify secret reports, telephone conversations, or computer data transmitted along communications channels in such a way that they become completely unintelligible to outsiders. That is to say, cryptography should guarantee such security for secret information that even in the event it is intercepted by outside persons and processed by any methods using the highest-speed supercomputers and the latest achievements of science and technology, it should not be decoded for several decades. For this modification of information we use various encrypting devices which are designed and created in this country by specialized organizations. Our service is entrusted with state scientific and technical control over providing the appropriate level of protection for transmitted information. In this fashion, by preventing leakage of state secrets from lines of communication to foreign electronic intelligence through the use of cryptographic and technical methods, we execute the functions of technical counterintelligence..."

But, as they say, better to see it one time than to hear it one hundred times. And we set off for a building filled with amazing and very complicated equipment. Near a telephone security device on whose front panel flashed a multitude of small lights and codes, I asked Nikolay Nikolayevich specifically who opposes their service.

"We are opposed by the electronic intelligence and decoding organs of the United States, the United Kingdom, the FRG, Japan, and other developed capitalist countries. Their combined scientific and technical potential is enormous. It is enough to say that in the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) alone, which is engaged in radio interception and deciphering information, about 200 doctors of science work. The annual cost of contracts fulfilled by U.S. industry for NSA exceeds $1 billion. NSA itself conducts basic research in the fields of computers, mathematics, and special branches of physics and radio electronics, the goal of which is to develop new methods of intercepting and processing information from the secure communications lines of the USSR and other states."

"Perhaps you could make an approximate comparison of Western electronic intelligence and our special service in terms of numbers of personnel and amounts of money," I said, continuing the interview.

"According to the foreign press there are about 25,000 specialists in NSA alone and approximately another 45,000 workers employed in the interests of NSA at radio intercept stations. NSA spends about $15 billion on its activities annually, which significantly exceeds the budget of the CIA. Approximately 10,000 people work in British electronic intelligence, somewhat fewer personnel work in the appropriate special services in the FRG, and significant material and technical resources are also allocated for their activities. The amount of personnel and finances that we allocate in our country to counteract Western electronic intelligence is several times less than what is spent by NSA alone..."

"Incidentally, do we also have electronic intelligence in our country as well?"

"Yes, as does any civilized country which has an active foreign policy and is concerned about its security."

We talked for a couple of minutes over a secure telephone. The sound quality was excellent. They later explained to me that behind the seeming simplicity of such a capability lay an enormous effort by the collective of the Eighth Main Directorate of the KGB, operatives, and a number of labor collectives in industry. Later, like a regular "Agent 007," I tapped into a line and tried to overhear a conversation between two employees speaking with these same pieces of equipment. But all I heard on the headphones was a lot of noise and whistling. At this point I recalled how in one of the republics of the Caucasus the conversations on a secure piece of equipment nonetheless became known to speakers at the rallies. I told N. Andreyev about it.

"In that instance secure phones had nothing to do with it," he explained. "As tests showed later, the conversations were overheard from the bottom floor of the building through the ventilation system."

However the encrypting devices or, to put it simply, encoders, are nothing compared to the complex electronic systems of the powerful supercomputers which are used for their research.

"Is it possible to 'break out' the codes?"

"In principle, yes. For instance, if you had the identical equipment, then by trying all the possible variations you would perhaps find the key to the code. On the other hand, the number of those variations is somewhere between 10 to the 50th and 10 to the 100th powers. By way of comparison I will point out that the number of molecules making up the Earth is substantially less than these numbers. And even supercomputers would need hundreds of years to try all the variations. Everything depends, as we say, on the resistance of the code. At the same time, cryptography, along with highly abstract mathematics, also contains elements of art and is, perhaps, one of the most enjoyable of skills. Therefore knowledge and talent may sometimes find other ways to 'uncover' a code."

In one of the subunits I found his associates at a process that was strange at first glance: They were trying to "break out" an enciphered program that had been created by their colleagues in another subunit of the "Eighth." The specialists had at their disposal three supercomputers whose total capability consisted of billions of operations per second.

"And were they successful even once?" I asked.

"No they were not. But sometimes they did manage to reduce the resistance of the code. Then other employees worked on improving both the program itself and the code."

Proof of the novelty and difficulty of the tasks of the employees of the Eighth Main Directorate of the USSR KGB is the fact that some of them have been awarded Lenin and State Prizes. Incidentally, N. Andreyev, who has travelled the road from rank-and-file employee to head of the Main Directorate, has himself won these prizes...

No country has anything more secret than its codes, inasmuch as their discovery by other states entails the leakage of the many thousands of other secrets which are concealed by these codes. As a result, for instance, the United States has taken special measures to preserve its cryptographic secrets, and U.S. laws even specify the death penalty for their disclosure.

The use of unresistant codes has always led to lamentable consequences. One may recall, for instance, that during World War II the deciphering services of the United States and the United Kingdom managed to break several codes of Germany and Japan and consequently monitored a portion of the military communications of these countries, which was, as Western historians insist, one of the reasons for their military defeat. A more recent example is the deciphering by the United Kingdom of several of Argentina's unresistant codes during the events around the Falkland Islands, which had a substantial influence on the result of that conflict.

Nikolay Nikolayevich noted that, with regard to our service, one may say that it ensures reliable secure communications for the country, and it made a significant contribution to the defeat of fascist Germany. In the words of A. Vasilyevskiy, "Not a single message about upcoming strategic military operations fell into the hands of German intelligence"...

With progress in science and technology, the opportunities for electronic espionage grows—it is enough to recall spy satellites which carry out not only visual reconnaissance but also try to intercept the signals of technical means of communication and other radioelectronic equipment. One such capability was demonstrated for me—picking up so-called stray emissions from computer equipment.

A simple program was fed into an electronic plotter (a graph plotter), and it began to sketch some rectangles on the paper. Not far from the equipment the antenna of a receiver-analyzer was set up, which picked up the stray emissions of the plotter. A diskette with the recorded data was fed into a computer, and in literally 10 minutes we received the sketch produced by the plotter.

Is it a fantasy? Alas, it is the reality of a century of scientific and technical progress whose achievements are not always used for good. Cryptographers do not fight hand to hand; as one of the employees of the "Eighth" said, it is a question of an invisible "war of minds." As a result, cryptographers, if it may be expressed this way, are always training, searching, and creating. In cryptography one must never rest on one's laurels; even V.I. Lenin pointed this out when he stressed that the question of codes mustalways be pursued.

Today, with regard to the changes in the world, new tasks face the cryptographers of the KGB: The amount of work in military directions is being reduced while work on commercial issues is growing. This is no accident. According to foreign specialists, the absence of protection for commercial, scientific, and technical secrets relating to our space program that were transmitted on communications lines in the fifties and the beginning of the sixties allowed U.S. firms to make use of the results of our achievements and save hundreds of millions of dollars. The foreign press has also mentioned that uncoded information intercepted by NSA about the condition of our agriculture and about extraction of oil, gold, precious metals, etc. was used by U.S. businessmen to their profit in the course of negotiations with the USSR on various issues, especially concerning the sale of wheat to us. The need to protect commercial secrets is becoming urgent, especially more recently in connection with the movement of our departments, enterprises, and cooperatives into the foreign market. The reorientation of the activities of Western electronic intelligence from the military to the economic realm testifies to the fact that these secrets are of great interest to foreign partners. It has already been declared that in the near future NSA will be getting increasingly involved in economic espionage, against the USSR as well.

"Will your service take part in the protection of commercial secrets?"

"Yes. Right now we are completing preparation of a document that defines a procedure for the creation and application of codes specially designated for the protection of commercial information. The creation of various types of such codes is stipulated depending on the level of protection of commercial information, the conditions of their use, and the cost. Our service will offer all types of aid and consultations to appropriate organizations at all stages in the design, creation, introduction, and use of such codes."

According to Nikolay Nikolayevich, one new task for the service to undertake cropped up in connection with recent events in Eastern Europe. Some secure equipment was installed in the countries of the Warsaw Pact at one time. The reunification of Germany now underway raises the need for the return of enciphering equipment installed in the GDR and the adoption of appropriate measures to increase protection of our lines of communication. The efforts of the service will be trained in this direction for the near future.

"Have your cryptographers made serious errors or had failures?"

"Errors take place in all cryptographic services. It is a continual struggle, and there are both winners and losers. For instance, last year the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST published an article under the title 'Catastrophe' about large gaps in providing protection of secure communications in the U.S. It is also appropriate to mention here the defection of the U.S. cryptographers Martin and Mitchell from NSA, which our press reported in detail at the time. Individual errors have also taken place in our country. When this happens, the most important thing is to react quickly and take appropriate countermeasures. One such error might be the defection of our associate V. Sheymov to the United States, which our press also reported."

"The articles about Sheymov noted that he rendered a great service to U.S. electronic intelligence and that he had access to the most important secrets of the KGB and even participated in the composition of reports for the Politburo. What is the whole story here?"

"We need to separate the wheat from the chaff," said Nikolay Nikolayevich after a pause. "In the first place, no single rank-and-file employee possesses our information in full. And Sheymov was in fact a rank-and-file employee with access to a quite limited circle of official secrets. For some time he was involved with enciphering equipment, and later he was transferred to a subunit conducting construction and repair efforts at Soviet foreign institutions. Incidentally, immediately after his disappearance we took care of security at the places where Sheymov had been. Our error consisted of something else: We had not succeeded in getting a glimpse of the true person behind that man. He lied both to us and to his new masters: For instance, Sheymov could not have had anything to do with the composition of reports for the Politburo if only because the preparation of such documents is not part of the sphere of activities of our service."

"And what was the origin of Sheymov's assertions, disseminated in the West, concerning KGB participation in the attempt on the Roman Catholic Pope John Paul II and Zia-ul-Haq, the president of Pakistan?"

"These assertions of Sheymov (or attributed to him) are pure invention. For instance, Sheymov's assertions concerning the KGB's participation in the attempt on President Zia-ul-Haq in 1988 are untenable if only because at that time Sheymov had already had nothing to do with the KGB for a long time, and he could only have given that information after the CIA had fed it to him." Nikolay Nikolayevich added after a pause, "I think that the moment of Sheymov's appearance on the stage and the orientation of his fabrications concerning the KGB were not chosen by accident, especially with regard to today's normalization of relations between the USSR and the United States, Western countries, and the Vatican. It all serves to discredit the KGB, particularly the aforementioned accusations of USSR participation in acts of terrorism that were fabricated and attributed to Sheymov..."

Nonetheless, in my opinion the betrayal of V. Sheymov threw a certain shadow over the employees of the "Eighth."

But believe me—although these people are young (cryptology is a science for fresh minds), they are honest and unselfish. Before Sheymov, so far as I know, foreign intelligence agents also tried to tempt our cryptographers and win them over to their side. But lately such attempts have become more frequent. For example, our cryptographers in the United States, returning from city stores, have found envelopes in their pocket containing an invitation to defect and an advance toward their acceptance of the offer—a diamond worth approximately R30,000. However, that is a special case, and PRAVDA will soon report about that...

I was interested in where the "Eighth" gets its personnel from.

"For work in the area of cryptography," said Nikolay Nikolayevich, "we need not only specialists in mathematics, physics, computer engineering, etc., but also motivated people who think creatively and are able to find important solutions to problems that arise in protecting communications. Such specialists are trained in the Higher KGB School. We also get our specialists from the country's better higher educational institutions, and when necessary we send them for cross-training to the Higher KGB School and other higher educational institutions in subjects we need. The service has opportunities to train specialists with higher qualifications through post-graduate study at higher educational institutions and the Higher KGB School. Young specialists can always find interesting scientific work here; they have the most modern Soviet equipment at their disposal to conduct scientific research, which allows them to quickly become highly qualified specialists in various fields of science and technology..."

According to Nikolay Nikolayevich, so long as the state exists, there will always be a need to protect state secrets, particularly their transmission along communications lines. Even the close bonds of NATO partnership do not safeguard the Western European countries from NSA's attempts upon their lines of communications. Our own communications will attract NSA's attention even more; for instance, at the end of last year the U.S. Administration appealed to all U.S. intelligence services, including NSA, to increase efforts against the USSR. The budget for their activities in the following fiscal year was increased by 20 percent.

"Are there similar cryptographic services in the republics, and can they independently ensure the security of the republic's communications?"

"The functions of communications security," asserted Nikolay Nikolayevich, "can only be resolved successfully at the all-Union level. It is practically impossible to create out of nothing a republic cryptographic service that could stand up to the deciphering services of the developed capitalist countries. It can only be done by a country with a very high scientific and technical potential and a high general level of development of those scientific and technical fields related to cryptography through the allocation of significant financial and human resources. Proof of this is the data cited in the foreign press to the effect that NSA reads the encoded correspondence of many of the world's countries despite the fact that several of them have large cryptographic services at their disposal. In our country only our service is able to ensure a reliable defense of secrets in transmission. During its 70-year development it has accumulated an enormous amount of experience and has at its disposal a great number of specialists, including scholars with doctorates and candidates of physical mathematics and technical sciences; in other words, a native school of cryptography has been created."

...I wish to assert that the Eighth Main Directorate of the USSR KGB is indeed the holy of holies of the security of our country. This certainty is based upon my conversations with many employees working in various jobs and my acquaintance with the work of several subunits of that directorate. There they do not, when necessary, worry about the time, and they do not complain about the comparatively low pay and the regimented character of the work. There they do what the country needs...

The "Eighth" gave me what I had asked for: An encrypted appeal to the readers. It looks like this:

9691 9961 9230 4371 2723 4915
8480 4496 3912 9290 2824 1840
0864 0730 9496 9011 3028 7761
5312 2893 7298 2513 2767 7805
9429 0484 8056 1718 4669 0230

9386 9461 9728 4377 1541 3115
8495 4304 1698 8703 2510 0348
9451 2427 9277 9725 1414 4174
4507 2905 7180 2720 2840 6904
9439 0782 0951 3104 5474 9927
2686 8185 4790 1348 8824 2516
8009 0947 0440 5274 0339 2114
8483 4206 2687 7098 1146 1257
9251 1520 9401 0127 2710 6876
4211 3192 9599 2832 0348 9597
1027 9485 0844 1219 6764 2226
2885 7984 6229 3454 7499 2621
9381 8074 1516 5269 0910 1514
7116 4697 1317 8809 1016 2248
0971 0931 8689 9020 1604 4091
5607 2904 8284 1217 1053 7590
0222 9400

As stipulated, the key to the coded message is contained in the issue of the newspaper which you are holding in your hands and consists of a sequence of 12 figures: The first five figures—26342—make up the number of the edition of the newspaper counting from the day its publication was begun, and the other seven figures—1691990—make up the date of this edition of the newspaper—16 September 1990.

And so, the key is 263421691990.

The figures of the key are to be written under the first 12 figures of the encrypted message. Under the next 12 figures of the encrypted message are written the figures of the key starting from the second place (the first figure is written in the 12th position)—634216919902. Then the figures of the key are written down starting with the third position, the fourth position, and so on until the end. Then each figure of the encrypted message is added to the figure from the key underneath it. If the sum is more than 10, the number indicating the tens is discarded and only the units figure is written down. For example: 2+4=6; 8+5=3; 9+1=0; 6+6=2.

The enciphered sequence that is received is divided into pairs of figures, which are replaced with letters according to this table:

[following table has been transliterated into English letters]

01 - A, 02 - B, 03 - V, 04 - G, 05 - D, 06 - Ye, 07 - Ye, 08 - Zh, 09 - Z, 10 - I, 11 - Y, 12 - K, 13 - L, 14 - M, 15 - N, 16 - O, 17 - P, 18 - R, 19 - S, 20 - T, 21 - U, 22 - F, 23 - Kh, 24 - Ts, 25 - Ch, 26 - Sh, 27 - Shch, 28 - Y, 29 - Y, 30 - Y, 31 - E, 32 - Yu, 33 - Ya, 34 - ., 35 - ,, 36 - :, 37 - -, 38 - ".

The letters of the resulting text are the text of the appeal. I wish you success!

If you do not succeed, do not despair: The decoded appeal to the readers will be published tomorrow.

Woman Charged With Slandering Gorbachev

LD2209142790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1330 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 22 Sep (TASS)—The USSR Procuracy today reported that the Moscow Procuracy is currently conducting an investigation into the criminal case concerning Valeriya Novodvorskaya, who has repeatedly engaged in slander and public insults of the USSR president, including with the use of the mass media. On 20 September this year, Novodvorskaya, in the presence of a lawyer, was charged with having committed a crime, envisioned by the USSR law "On the Protection of the Honor and Dignity of the USSR President" and a measure to secure the appearance of the defendant was selected—a recognizance not to leave.

Taking into account objective data on the state of health of the accused, in strict accordance with the requirements of the law and with the procurator's sanction, she was placed in a medical institution for the purpose of carrying out a judicial-psychiatric expert report, after the completion of which the question of her liability will be resolved.

Guided by the law, the circumstances of the publication in a few news media of slanderous statements made by Novodvorskaya are being investigated.

Economic

Foreign Economists To Attend International Congress

LD2109162590 Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Andrey Surzhanskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—The problem of economic education and the role of public organisations in its implementation will be discussed at the international congress that will be held from October 13-18 at the Dagomys International Tourist Complex on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus.

Many prominent scientists, heads of national associations, universities and public organisations of the USSR, United States, Great Britain, Italy, France, West Germany, Sweden and other countries, as well as representatives of the United Nations, have confirmed their consent to attend the congress. Such large national firms as "Ernst and Young", "Price Waterhouse" (Great Britain), "Arthur Andersen" (United States), Alfa-Audit (France) and "Profficionse" (Sweden) are expected to take part in the congress. The forum will probably be attended by Academicians Leonid Abalkin, Stanislav Shatalin, Abel Aganbegyan and Professor Gavriil Popov.

"The question of training personnel that will be able to further determine perestroyka's strategy is particularly acute today when the Soviet Union is going over to a market economy," doctor of sciences Alla Gryaznova, rector of the Moscow Finance Institute, one of the forum's sponsors, told TASS.

"Today it is very necessary to shape a new kind of economic thinking. We have no stock exchanges or a ramified bank system, no legal advise services now. But no industrial enterprise or firm can do business in market conditions without them. Some 28,000 Soviet enterprises are believed to be unprofitable.

"The forthcoming congress is expected to play an important role in solving this task. Drawing on the rich experience of foreign experts, we hope to determine the qualification standards necessary for our future personnel in market conditions.

"For this purpose we expect to establish direct partnership during the congress with some foreign specialists and reach agreement with them on tuition at Soviet economic institutes, to determine the possibility of Soviet students receiving practical training at foreign universities and firms."

Moscow Mayor Popov Discusses Economic Reforms

AU2409102490 Vienna PROFIL in German 24 Sep 90 p 55

[Interview with Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov by Michael Siegert in Vienna; date not given: "Remove the CPSU"]

[Text] [Siegert] Mr. Popov, a few days ago in Moscow you called for the resignation of Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov. President Gorbachev hinted that he does not want to dismiss Ryzhkov. Do you think that Ryzhkov will torpedo the realization of the Shatalin plan?

[Popov] Of course he will. He presented a plan that is incompatible with the Shatalin plan. Thus, he must now prove that the Shatalin plan does not work. However, this is not the only aspect. The Ryzhkov government is the last remnant of the old system. The CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo shaped this government when they were still powerful. It is oriented toward the military-industrial complex. It is characterized by a centralist structure, it is against the separation of powers, and it does not want to transfer rights to the republics. This is not compatible with Gorbachev's plan.

[Siegert] What would you suggest?

[Popov] A few years ago, Andrey Sakharov and the democratic reformers claimed that the system is not reformable as long as the CPSU remains in power. Since that time, the situation has deteriorated, and it has become clear that the old system no longer works. The CPSU must be removed from power. If Gorbachev does not get rid of the conservative forces, he will torpedo his own plan. The problem is not that he does not understand things, but that he is still under the influence of the conservatives.

[Siegert] What will happen once they are removed?

[Popov] Economic restructuring should be accompanied by political restructuring. We need a new government with new ideas. Apart from the president, there is practically nobody with executive powers in the country. This is the greatest danger at the moment.

[Siegert] Who is ruling now? The mafia?

[Popov] A general lack of understanding prevails at the moment. The mafia has certainly its share in this.

[Siegert] What about the mafia in Moscow?

[Popov, laughing] So far, the mafia has had no problems with us.

[Siegert] When you assumed office one year ago, you claimed that you would lease thousands of shops and that the shops would soon be full of goods. However, the shops are emptier than ever before. Have you failed?

[Popov] I never promised full shelves in the shops. I only promised that I will lease the shops. This will soon be tackled. The first thing that we will privatize are apartments. Then we will introduce private ownership of small enterprises, shops, repair shops, and craftsmen's establishments.

[Siegert] Can you explain the following paradox: Everybody in the Soviet Union is talking about the market, but exactly the opposite is happening: People are avoiding money and returning to a barter economy: Towns and districts trade coal for meat, cereals for textiles, etc. The workers are being supplied through the enterprises and not the shops.

[Popov] You are right. Two or three years ago, it would still have been possible to fully introduce the market economy. However, we failed to do that. Now this is no longer possible because our economic situation is so bad. We must organize part of the supply of consumer goods on the basis of fixed prices in order to ensure a subsistence level for the people. The rest of the economy should be liberalized and function according to market-oriented and competitive principles.

Contraband Auction To Benefit Local Soviets

PM2109160390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 20 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The 21st auction of goods confiscated by the Customs Service will be held in Moscow tomorrow, 21 September. For your information, the Soviet Customs Service pays for itself entirely; it does not receive any state subsidies. In 1989, Customs Service revenues topped 300 million rubles [R].

[Reporter] On this occasion the Customs Service is putting computers, domestic radio and television equipment, and so forth up for sale. In short, everything that is unavailable in stores. Acquisition of these goods is becoming more and more dangerous for black market dealers.

After the first report about an auction of this kind, people asked what happens to the money from the sale of these goods that come on the market thanks to the—how can I put it—crooked ways of their former owners. A little later I will pass this question on to someone competent to answer it, meanwhile, let me tell you that to buy this jewelry studded with precious stones, for instance, you need not only a ticket to the auction, but also a declaration of income. Therefore, people whose income comes from dubious sources are not likely to take part in the sale.

Now let us return to the television viewers' question: Where does the money from the sale of the goods go?

[V.G. Arkhiyereyev, chairman of the "Vneshnetermi-nalkompleks" All-Union Foreign Economic Association] To the customs offices that have seized these goods, to be used to finance their retooling and to develop their social sphere. And 25 percent of the revenue, both in foreign currency and in Soviet rubles, goes straight to the relevant local soviets to use as they see fit.

[Reporter] What are you going to do with this money?

[E.V. Sakharov, chairman of the Sokolnicheskiy Rayon Soviet Executive Committee] We will use it to fund social programs in the rayon. We want to use this money to equip school laboratories, to buy equipment for our hospitals, and to increase the wages of teachers and health service workers. We will find something to spend this money on.

[Reporter] So it seems that the real money is going to real people. Perhaps this is a way to do away with the monopoly on profits and consequently to ensure their better distribution. Let me add that at the 20 auctions which have been held, R8 million of goods have been sold.

Plant Produces Fishing Vessels

PM2109132190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Report by V. Kovalchuk; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The Blagoveshchensk October Revolution Shipbuilding Plant collective has started producing medium-sized "Primorye"-type fishing vessels.

[Kovalchuk] The new medium-seized ships have a number of important advantages in comparison with the small fishing seiners that the Blagoveshchensk shipyards have been building for many decades. They can fish up to 200 miles from shore and for up to a fortnight with the help of a trawl and side and deepwater nets. It is not profitable for fishermen to market unprocessed fish; this was also considered when designing the prototype ship, aboard which it is planned to carry out simple primary processing of not only fish but also crabs. The final preparations are under way. Soon the ship will put to sea down the Amur and set course for Vladivostok. The plant is preparing to fill orders from fishermen in the Far East and Vietnam.

Agriculture

Mordova Authorities Declare Harvest Emergency

LD2209165990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] As already reported, a state of emergency has been announced in Mordovia to save the harvest.

The staff of industrial enterprises and offices, students, and schoolchildren are in the fields.

The situation is complicated: Only 22 percent of the potatoes and seven percent of the sugar beets have been harvested.

For a few days now, so-called unorganized citizens are moving into the fields from Saransk. Announcements are placed in local newspapers indicating vehicle departure points and those who wish to go to farms in the suburbs to gather potatoes. The benefits are mutual, since citizens can receive up to half of the potatoes they gather as payment in kind.

IZVESTIYA on Grain Harvesting Progress

PM2309172590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 1

[M. Petrov "Topic of the Day" report: "Silos Full of Problems"]

[Excerpt] For the most part this year's crop has been harvested. At any event, it has been gathered in from the fields. And the USSR State Committee for Statistics confirms (according to figures for 17 September) that 83.1 million hectares of grain crops or 83 percent of the total crop has been cut. Some 95 percent of the area of grain cut has been threshed.

It is not yet known just how much marketable grain will be produced, that is, the grain which maybe shortly will be baked into bread and rolls and turned into pasta. It is now, at the very end of the harvest, that specialists refrain from making forecasts on this score. Thousands of tonnes of grain are lost each day to the bad weather. Furthermore, the sale of grain to the state has been extremely slow. But recently the situation has been picking up. Across the country as a whole 51.7 million tonnes of grain have been purchased—60 percent of the state order. Last year, for example, purchases by this date amounted to 50.9 million tonnes.

Crop farmers in Belorussia are close to completing the state order—they have achieved 95 percent. Collective and state farms in Russia have sold 29.4 million tonnes of grain, or 62 percent of the state order, in the Ukraine the figures are 14 million tonnes or 80 percent, and in Kazakhstan 5.3 million tonnes or 32 percent. [passage omitted]

Agricultural Developments for 20-22 Sep Reported

LD2309053790

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 20-22 September, unless indicated otherwise. Times of broadcast, given in GMT, are in parentheses at the end of each item.

20 September

Grain crops have been harvested on 83 million hectares and grain has been threshed from 95 percent of the area. (1500)

We have been informed that autumn ploughing has been carried out on 200,600 hectares, or 22 percent of the total area. As compared with any previous year, and bearing in mind the rainy weather and wet soil, this result is not bad. (Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1900 GMT)

21 September

As of today, one million tonnes of Uzbek cotton have been picked. Growers in the Khorezm Oasis have already delivered over 40 percent of the planned harvest to procurement stations.

It is estimated that the picking of cotton will rise sharply in the near future. Some 30,000 cotton-picking combines will be deployed. (0600)

Today, Altay's harvesting combine operators finished threshing on three million hectares. This is over four-fifths of the area under grain. (1100)

A total of 250,000 tonnes of cotton have been picked by the farmers of Tajikistan since harvesting began. (1300)

22 September

No significant developments reported

Townspeople Help With Siberian Potato Harvest

PM2409110190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 20 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by G. Chudnyy]

[Text] [Announcer] Potatoes are being harvested throughout Siberia and the harvest is good everywhere. Thus in Tomsk Oblast, for example, 60-70 quintals more tubers than last year have been lifted from each hectare.

[Chudnyy] Last year will remain in the memory of the 500,000 residents of Tomsk. Then the townspeople refused to help the countryside and a large proportion of the already miserly harvest perished. The city was left without its main food product. But the market reacted promptly. A bucket of potatoes cost 6-7 rubles [R], and when have those been the potato prices in Siberia? This year the sovkhozes [state farms] concluded mutually beneficial contracts in advance with industrial enterprises and educational and scientific establishments, and now several thousands of people drive out to the potato plantations every day. In suburban Tomskiy Rayon alone there are at least 3,000 hectares of potatoes to be harvested. The sovkhozes have accommodated their helpers, organizing the sale of tubers directly from the fields for those who want them. Potatoes have begun to be laid in for winter storage also—last year the damp and disease-ridden potatoes bought from their neighbors, the people of Kemerovo, virtually all perished. But what is the quality of the potatoes currently being laid in? We visited the "Michurinskoye" lease cooperative enterprise, which supplies stores with potatoes during the winter.

[A.K. Kirgintsev, cooperative director] This year we have to lay in 9,500 tonnes of the potatoes we receive. During the period in question roughly 2,000 tonnes have been laid in, but 700 of these 2,000 tonnes of potatoes are of poor quality. These are generally potatoes from the "Rodina" Sovkhoz. Up to 29 percent of its potatoes suffer from blight. We are now forced to crate up these potatoes here and send them off for immediate sale.

[Chudnyy] What price do you buy at from sovkhozes and what are your selling prices?

[Kirgintsev] The price at which we buy from sovkhozes fluctuates between 30 and 40 kopeks. But during the months of September-October we sell them at 20 kopeks.

[Chudnyy] That is, you lose out.

[Kirgintsev] Yes, we lose out there.

[Chudnyy] There is of course no point in storing tubers that are known to be diseased, as was the case last year, when to make soup you had to sift through a bucket of rotten potatoes. Leaseholders at vegetable bases are acting correctly in offloading potatoes for sale now despite the considerable losses. They will be made up in the spring. But a full reserve can be laid in. The harvest makes that possible.

Scientific

Rumors of Cracks in Chernobyl Cover Rebutted

PM2109131390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 90 Second Edition p 6

[Special correspondents V. Gubarev and M. Odinets report under the rubric "Aloud About Rumors": "All Quiet at Chernobyl AES"]

[Text] Chernobyl, Pripyat—Certain Western news media have published a further "sensation" alleging that the "sarcophagus" at the destroyed fourth reactor unit of Chernobyl AES [Nuclear Electric Power Station] has cracked.

We have been to the station, visited Chernobyl and Pripyat, and called in at Zelenyy Mys, where the international conference on "Biological and Radioecological Aspects of the Consequences of the Accident at Chernobyl AES" was drawing to an end. There was a calm, businesslike mood everywhere—both in the functioning reactor units of the AES and in the building where the conference was taking place. Biologists from 21 foreign countries participated in it. It was preceded by the arrival in the summer of a representative group of International Atomic Energy Agency experts. The participants' attention was drawn to more than 250 reports associated with the problems of the radioecology of plants, radiation genetics, radiobiology, and agricultural ecology.

At the same time a delegation arrived from the French Association of Scientific Journalists, comprising commentators for the newspapers LE MONDE, L'HUMANITE, and LES ECHOS, AFP, television, Radio Luxembourg....

Our French colleagues are touring nuclear enterprises at the invitation of the press club of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace. They have visited Chelyabinsk-40, Kyshtym, and the uranium combine in the city of Zheltyye Vody. Meetings have been held with leading scientists and specialists.

At Chernobyl AES, S. Parashin, acting general director of the "Chernobylskaya AES" Production Association, and V. Shcherbinin, director of the enterprise called "Project 'Cover,'" spoke in detail about the situation at the station and the "sarcophagus" and cited convincing data showing that the project is under specialist supervision and is subject to careful observation, the data from which are studied regularly, and measures are being taken to maintain a normal regime in the destroyed part of it. The future prospects of the "sarcophagus" were expounded to those present. "For the time being, for the next quarter-century," V. Shcherbinin declared, "the cover can fulfill its functions."

The French journalists visited shield control unit "one," where they held a conversation with shift chief G. Karyakin and inquired about the reactor's work. Then they went through to the "sarcophagus" itself and used meters to check the level of radiation—it did not reach a dangerous level. Next the French journalists drove around the "sarcophagus" and were photographed in front of it. Naturally, apparatus was working, and its data attest that the "sarcophagus" reliably covers the fourth reactor unit and that there are no "cracks" in the "cover." The following detail was noteworthy—almost nowhere did the guests see people in respirators. This means the radiation situation is normal.

Station workers told the French journalists that the fabrications of individual Western news media and radio broadcasts in Ukrainian and Russian give rise to alarming rumors in the Ukraine and Belorussia.

Back in Kiev we talked about this with V. Gladush, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers. This is what he said: "The rumors being spread in the West about a crack in the cover of the fourth reactor unit are nothing but a provocation aimed at slandering our power generation, industry, and the country as a whole, which is allegedly quite incapable of coping with the Chernobyl disaster, despite assistance from international science."

The delegates to the scientific conference in Zelenyy Mys and the members of the group of French journalists who visited the fourth reactor unit at the station saw for themselves that Chernobyl AES is working reliably and that the radiation situation around the "sarcophagus" has not changed.

International Airshow Opens in Moscow

LD2109162290 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—"This is the first Soviet air show of this type opening broad opportunities for international cooperation," Soviet Aircraft Industry Minister Apollon Systsov told TASS at the opening ceremony of the international exhibition "Aviatsia-90" in Moscow today.

"Over 300 firms from 16 countries are participating in it," Systsov said. Leading aircraft firms from the United States, Britain, Canada, France, West Germany and the Netherlands have put on show their exhibits.

"The USSR has the largest exposition," the minister noted. "This is quite understandable: We can fully demonstrate our aerospace technology at home. Judge for yourself: Planes and helicopters are displayed over an area of 3,500 square meters."

They include such sophisticated aircraft as SU-26MX, YAK-55 and V-62. The Soviet exposition also includes spacecraft depicting the state of Soviet space technology.

The exhibition was sponsored by the West German firm Gebrueder Helbig Industrial Exhibitions GMBH. It was co-sponsored by Soviet Partners: The Ministry of the Aircraft Industry, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Chief Administration for the Development and Use of Space Engineering for the Economy and Research and the Licenzintorg Association.

Science Academies Form Council of Presidents

LD2109164990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] The presidents of the USSR Academy of Sciences and of the academies of sciences of the republics have formed a Council of Presidents, which will become the highest consultative body for scientific issues. An agreement on its formation has been signed.

At its first session, the new council determined that a basic task in its work is the drafting of a general strategy for the development of fundamental scientific research in the country, and the working out of general principles for financial, material, technical and personnel provision for scientific research and international scientific cooperation. The presidents of the academies of sciences agreed that the council will work on generally recognized democratic principles. Its recommendations will be of a mandatory character for all its participants only after full examination, and adoption of corresponding decisions in the presidiums of republican academies of sciences. Members of the council of presidents of academies of sciences also examined a broad range of problems concerning the development of science in the country in the conditions of transition to a market economy, and instructed that the necessary documents be drawn up on these issues for discussion at the next session.

Military

Defense Sectors Support Transition to Market

PM2409142590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by Colonel A. Belousov: "What Awaits the Defense Industry?]

[Text] "Destabilization in the work of the defense sectors has reached a dangerous level..." So states a draft letter to the USSR President examined 19 September at the USSR Supreme Soviet Defense and State Security Committee.

The attitude of the committee members toward the market-transition programs is a mixed one. Each speaker cited his or her own powerful arguments in support of one or other of the draft programs. But the committee members were unanimous on the fact that none of the proposed programs contained sufficient guarantees of legal, economic, and social protection for enterprises in the defense sectors of industry.

The transformation of ownership relations, granting enterprises the freedom to leave ministries, and changes in pricing and taxation during the transition to the market—all this, the committee members believe, must operate differently for different sectors. Of course, for consumers the overwhelming majority of provisions in the programs, as well as in the normative documents already adopted, are undoubtedly acceptable. But for the defense sectors with their very high concentration and coordination of science and production and their tight economic-contract discipline, it is inevitable that their work will be destabilized in connection with the violation of the system of material and technical supply and cooperative ties, the loss of qualified cadres to cooperatives, and the conversion to payment in kind. Losses in the scientific, technical, and production potential of the defense sectors may impact not only on the country's defense capability but also on these sectors' contribution to the resolution of national economic tasks.

The committee prepared for submission for USSR Supreme Soviet examination a draft resolution defining a range of essential measures that must be adopted at least during the market transition period to prevent the further destabilization of work in the defense complex. It is proposed in particular that the property of defense industry enterprises remain under all-union ownership during the transitional period, and that the state order represent their basic form of activity. According to the committee members, an interim economic agreement must be concluded between the sovereign republics before the conclusion of a Union treaty.

News Conference Held on Soldiers' Pay, Housing

LD2109213290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A news conference was held today in the Central House of the Soviet Army on steps being taken to strengthen the social and legal protection of servicemen, in connection with the USSR president's decree on these problems.

[Correspondent G. Sedov] The main fact that emerged at the press conference was that the Ministry of Defense has drawn up a targeted state program and has submitted it to the government. It was announced that it would shortly be made public.

Colonel General Babyev, head of the Central Financial Directorate of the Ministry of Defense, commented on some of its provisions. As of today, a private in the Soviet Army receives five rubles a month, plus two rubles [R] for tobacco. This was a revelation for some of those present. This will now be increased four or five times.

Another fact: The salary of a supersonic combat aircraft pilot is today less than that of a bus driver. Air Force officers, seamen, rocket troops, and others should get an average increase of R100.

Colonel General Gryaznov, head of the Main Billeting and Maintenance Directorate, reported that some 24 million square meters of housing will be built in the 13th 5-year plan period—largely paid for out of the Ministry of Defense's own resources. In 1991 approximately R4 billion will be spent on all these initiatives and programs.

The presidential decree focuses attention on improving the effectiveness of work to ensure safe conditions for military service. The military lawyers I talked to here spoke of raising unit commanders' personal responsibility for this, and said that the legal services will now be closer to the common people, so to speak. But by and large, the comrade servicemen are generally pinning their hopes on positive shifts in the country.

PRAVDA Obituary of Marshal Kurkotkin

PM2109151790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 90 Second Edition p 6

[Obituary of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin]

[Excerpts] The eminent Soviet military commander Hero of the Soviet Union Marshal of the Soviet Union Semen Konstantinovich Kurkotkin died 16 September 1990 after a long and serious illness. A loyal son of the Soviet people and active participant in the Great Patriotic War who devoted his entire adult life to selfless service of the homeland and to the cause of the Communist Party, which he joined in 1940, has passed away.

S.K. Kurkotkin was born 13 February 1917 in the village of Zaprudnaya in Ramenskiy Rayon, Moscow Oblast, the son of a peasant. He volunteered for the Soviet Army in 1937 and rose from armor command school cadet to Marshal of the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

For a long time S.K. Kurkotkin was USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services and he did a great deal of work to improve Army and Navy rear services. Under his leadership important measures were implemented to develop rear services, strengthen their combat and mobilization readiness, and improve life for personnel. In 1988 he became a general inspector in the USSR Defense Ministry General Inspectors' Group. [passage omitted]

[Signed] M.S. Gorbachev, A.I. Lukyanov, N.I. Ryzhkov, D.T. Yazov, M.A. Moiseyev, P.G. Lushev, K.A. Kochetov, N.I. Shlyaga, A.S. Pavlov, Yu.P. Maksimov, V.I. Varennikov, I.M. Tretyak, Ye.I. Shaposhnikov, V.N. Chernavin, V.M. Shuralev, V.M. Arkhipov, V.M. Shabanov, N.V. Chekov, V.L. Govorov, V.F. Yermakov, Yu.A. Yashin, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, N.V. Ogarkov, V.I. Petrov, S.L. Sokolov, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, A.D. Lizichev, I.G. Pavlovskiy, A.N. Soshnikov, D.S. Sukhorukov, I.N. Shkadov, V.I. Litvinov, A.T. Klimov, V.P. Timonin, P.I. Sysoyev, and I.M. Golushko.

Army Inoculation Declines, Diphtheria Cases Rise

PM2109104390 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Sep 90 First Edition p 4

[Answer to reader's question by Medical Service Major General V. Perepelkin, chief epidemiologist of the USSR Defense Ministry: "This is What Needs to be Done"—first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] "According to the newspapers, the incidence of diphtheria has increased in a number of areas. Have there been any cases of this disease among military servicemen?"

[Signed] R. Lyamin, Astrakhan.

Diphtheria cases have mainly been reported in Moscow. As of the beginning of September, 171 servicemen in the capital had contracted the disease—five of them fatally.

One of the main reasons why people are contracting diphtheria is that the inoculation rate among teenagers is poor. According to data from research conducted in 1985-1988, the percentage of draftees not protected against the disease was as follows: 35 percent in central oblasts; 42.4 percent in western oblasts; 43.5 percent in southern oblasts; 34.9 percent in northwestern oblasts; 34 percent in eastern oblasts; 68 percent in Georgia; 65 percent in Armenia; 55 percent in the Ukraine; and 63-67 percent in the Central Asian republics.

There have been no substantial improvements in recent years. For example, a study of draftees arriving in the Moscow Military District in 1989-1990 showed that as many as 70 percent of them did not have medical certificates confirming that they had been revaccinated at the age of 16, i.e. had had a booster shot against diphtheria. In view of all this, since 1987 the Army and Navy have inoculated young recruits against diphtheria if they have no revaccination certificate or if they are sent to unfavorable regions.

Finally, angina symptoms, severely inflamed tonsils, and a high temperature are all characteristics of diphtheria. In the event of these symptoms appearing, patients must undergo urgent medical examination and be admitted to a military hospital infectious diseases department.

Military Prosecutor Meets Servicemen's Mothers

PM2109094590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Sep 90 First Edition p 4

[Report by unidentified correspondent: "In the Main Military Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] On 11 September Lieutenant General of Justice A. Katusev, USSR main military prosecutor and deputy general prosecutor, received a group of soldiers' and sailors' mothers.

Most of the mothers demanded a thorough investigation into the circumstances in which their sons have been killed or severely injured and into cases of nonregulation relations in units, as well as the adoption of measures to prevent any incidents in the future.

Lt. Gen. of Justice A. Katusev assured the mothers that every case would be investigated and criminal charges brought if necessary. He promised that the results of this investigation would be sent to every woman who had appealed to him.

Baltic Republics

Estonian Communists Criticize Republic Government

LD2109171890 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tallinn September 21 TASS—Estonian communists attacked the republican government in a statement adopted at a meeting in Kohtla Jarve of secretaries of primary party organisations from many republican cities.

The statement notes that the new government's activity has "produced no practical results to improve the life of most inhabitants and stabilise the Estonian economy."

"The government sees that the economy in Estonia has failed to resume its vigour, but has no courage to admit the failure of its policy and seeks to shift the burden of its blunders onto the shoulders of the estonian people," the statement stresses.

This was made fully clear by the bill on taxation submitted to the parliament and the resolution to raise prices for meat, dairy and fish products, which was adopted on September 17 despite protests from the public, trade unions and work collectives, the statement points out.

Paying lip service to the need to maintain economic links with the West and the East, the government seeks to sever economic relations with the east: Estonia was the only republic which refused to participate in the working out of a single economic policy and the creation of a single market with the Soviet Union and constitutent republics.

"The republican leadership seeks to justify its policy, leading to a sharp worsening of the standard of living in Estonian, by saying this policy is designed to make Estonia truly free and independent," the statement says.

Participants in the conference condemned this policy of the Estonian government and called upon the republican parliament and the government "to remember this responsibility before the people".

Latvian 'Embassy' Opens in Moscow

LD2309000590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2122 GMT 22 Sep 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Excerpt] [S. Antsupov] This year is a year in which Latvia celebrates several anniversaries. First, it is the 70th anniversary of the conclusion of the treaty between Soviet Russia and the Latvian Republic. Second, Latvia lost its independence 50 years ago. And this year, on 4 May, the democratically elected parliament set the course for the restoration of independence. And that event, that ceremony of the consecration of the Latvian flag which took place today in this building, is a step along the path toward Latvia's real independence. [video shows building in Moscow identified as Latvian permanent mission, postpredstvo].

[D. Ivans, first deputy chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet] That is a very important, historical moment for the Latvian Republic, the revival of the embassy of the Latvian Republic which was once trampled underfoot. The rebirth of the Latvian Republic is continuing and that little piece of Latvian soil in the center of Moscow is being reborn here. [passage omitted]

Latvia, Belorussia Sign Cooperation Accord

LD2209113690 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Minsk September 22 TASS—Belorussia and Latvia today signed an agreement on economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation.

The agreement specifies areas of cooperation and volumes of the supply of basic products and outlines the directions of integration in finances, building, architecture, communications, transport, agriculture and basic sciences. Agencies in the two republics were charged with concluding, within the two-month term, specific contracts to implement the agreement signed.

The sides deemed it necessary to set up a working commission to draft a long-term programme for comprehensive cooperation and a council to coordinate business ties.

It was decided to open the republic's permanent missions in Riga and Minsk.

Prunskiene, Gorbachev To Meet 24 September

Meeting Previewed

LD2209223190 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimier Prunskiene plans to meet with Mikhail Gorbachev at the beginning of next week.

The USSR president called the prime minister this evening and promised to set a definite meeting time Monday.

We have already reported that the consultations between Kazimiera Prunskiene and Mikhail Gorbachev were to have taken place last Thursday but were postponed.

It is hoped that early next week the Lithuanian prime minister will consult with the Kremlin leader concerning the start of interstate negotiations.

Meanwhile, Kazimiera Prunskiene in today's interview with the daily RESPUBLIKA again reiterated her opinion that the optimum time for negotiations has already been missed.

According to the prime minister, there are [word indistinct] no obstacles for a meeting between the delegations even today, however it would have been smarter to meet at a time when the delegations had just been formed and the Kremlin had been presented with a draft negotiation protocol. In addition, the prime minister points out that, just recently, following the presentation of the draft protocol—that is at the beginning of August—the Kremlin had replied through the Lithuanian Moscow representative that negotiations can be initiated, though in truth not in accordance with the [word indistinct] protocol proposed by Lithuania, as it is pointed out by RESPUBLIKA, but initially concerning the protocol itself.

Officials Depart for Moscow

LD2409092990 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene and Vice Premier Romualdas Ozolas departed for Moscow today.

Kazimiera Prunskiene; Romualdas Ozolas; and Egidijus Bickauskas, the Lithuanian republic government's permanent Moscow representative, will meet with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at 1500 Moscow time [1100 GMT].

Prunskiene Discusses Meeting

LD2409101190 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene, in an interview with the newspaper RESPUBLIKA, stated and I quote: A meeting is imperative. Two weeks ago I had a telephone conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev and was given to understand his disposition toward negotiating with us has not changed. As for today's meeting, we will receive yet more accurate information.

Well, and what may this more accurate information prove to be? This news we will receive from Moscow, probably at the conclusion of the meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev; most certainly during the evening.

Prunskiene Addresses Baltic Economic Conference

LD2109215890 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] The goals and the similar economic problems that bind Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia force them to look for solutions jointly. With this purpose in mind, a conference entitled "Economic Reform Within the Baltic Countries" was held today in Vilnius.

Seated around the table were the Republic of Lithuania's Economic Minister Vytas Navickas; Latvia's director of the Department for Economic Reform Ulgis Zienalis; Estonian Deputy Minister of Economy [name indistinct]; a group of administrators from these countries' economic departments and enterprises; and some economic experts.

In her opening speech at the conference, Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene stated that the independence goals of our countries are inseparable from the establishment of an independent economy. Unfortunately we still remain dependent on the USSR economy whose envelopment by crisis is increasing. For this reason it is vital to exchange experience and operations on principles of implementation of reforms in an independent economy.

The conference heard reports on privatization, price-setting, and market establishment; local municipal administration;and agrarian reform questions. General discussions followed.

Party Official Says People Losing Confidence in Sajudis

LD2109133290 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—"A bourgeois totalitarian state is being formed in Lithuania. Many of those who hold key posts hope to wax rich in that state," Mikolas Burokevicius, Soviet Communist Party Politburo member and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party aligned with the CPSU, said in an interview published in today's "PRAVITELSTVENNY VESTNIK" (GOVERNMENT HERALD), a weekly.

Burokevicius believes that the Sajudis is losing the confidence of the people more quickly than its leaders thought possible.

"The policy of the Sajudis has not made the life of the working people easier. The Lithuanian Supreme Soviet and its President Vytautas Landsbergis no longer enjoy the amount of support they had several months ago," Burokevicius said.

Burokevicius believes that the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet's agrarian policy is becoming less popular among peasants. Lithuanian collective farms ignore the laws adopted by parliament.

Burokevicius said that psychological pressure is brought to bear on communists who retain ties with the Soviet Communist Party. Militant Sajudis and their representatives in the new government bodies make communists choose between the party and their posts.

The Lithuanian Communist Party aligned with the CPSU will continue waging a persistent struggle for the legislative victory of leftist forces, for the restoration of the sovereign Lithuanian socialist state within the Soviet Union.

Lithuanian Finance Minister Discusses Budget

LD2309194990 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Interview with Lithuanian Finance Minister Romualdas Sikorskis by correspondent Roma Pakieniene; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pakieniene] Mr. Minister, I interviewed you back in June when the Lithuanian budget was in a very difficult position. At that time you noted our treasury had lost approximately 100 million rubles [R]. Several months have passed, the blockade has ended. Today I would like to learn the extent of the losses incurred during the entire blockade, and which are probably still continuing.

[Sikorskis] Naturally matters involving incomem, [word indistinct] that is, in the republic state budget and excluding the municipal government budget, are not favorable. During the eight months of the current year we have lost approximately R180 million in income. The blocakde did its thing and the ensuing, that is the post-blockade period, has also injected appropriate difficulties, so to speak. For this reason the budget has only [word indistinct] only 90 percent income [word indistinct] in eight months. Of course expenses are also equivalent to a similar sum. Moreover, our prognosis notes that as far as income is concerned for the time being, this process is not going to improve before the end of the year.

That is why if we fail to take in an additional R300 million besides that which has not been received by the year's end, with the current R180 million, and also having saved and decreased state budget expenses—we still hope to save about R100-150 million income from various commercial trade and other incipient activities and we are in search of various other sources of income, [passage indistinct] so that by the end of the year we may still be able to complete the year with approximately the same size deficit as we had started with, approximately R200-250 million will comprise the state budget deficit.

[Pakieniene] It appears to me, however, that next year you should encounter a considerably better situation since you mentioned last time that the budget for the coming year is projected, without any deductions allowed for the USSR budget, and also during the course of negotiations demands may be fulfilled on [word indistinct] whether they will return it or not, is another question. However, the Soviet Union owes much to Lithuania: Thus, perhaps we could save the Lithuanian budget. What are your thoughts about next year?

[Sikorskis] As far as next year is concerned, we are just now receiving draft proposals from all the municipal governments as to what incomes and expenses one might expect here. [passage indistinct] We have established our own projections, however. In the event of the start of negotiations it would be possible to obtain some things and to agree on some type of compensation for the past since we have all our calculations on relations between our budget and the USSR budget. That sum is in the millions. Of course, it would be possible to perhaps improve certain matters. However, according to our preliminary data we face a difficult coming year so far as the formal budget income and outlay [word indistinct] is concerned. The current prediction points to approximately one billion [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

The formation of our finances and budget will depend on what our relations will be next year with our neighbors, especially with Russia and the other republics, within the federation [passage indistinct]. [passage omitted] In this respect you have posed one of the most difficult questions to me, a full solution to which I do not yet see but do hope to see.

[Pakieniene] Thank you for the interview.

Lithuanian Minister Examines Economic Problems

LD2309121290 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 23 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Serafim Bykhun]

[Text] Vilnius September 23 TASS—The provision with top priorities in the republic has considerably worsened this year, Lithuanian Trade Minister Albertas Sinevicius told TASS.

Over the past eight months, compared to the same period of 1989, their production in the republic has slashed by five per cent. He said economic sanctions imposed by the Soviet leadership against Lithuania negatively affected the situation.

"Even today, we receive insufficient supplies of raw materials from other union republics," he said. "I should say that production facilities in the republic do not meet current demands. Many enterprises use worn-out equipment and outdated technologies."

"At the same time, our estimates show that a sufficient amount of top priorities is supplied to retail trade. Other things trouble us." People have saved up so much money that they do not know what to do with it. They buy out everything without a moment's thought that somebody might be short of the product they have in excess.

"I cannot exclude the possibility that many goods do not reach shops, because of shadow economy dealers and profiteers. The republican government is taking all necessary measures to put an end to profiteering and ensure our citizens' social protection, although it is not so easy to do this, as Lithuania has neither borders, nor its own currency," Sinevicius said.

Lithuanian Trade Unions Proclaim Independence

LD2109212390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Our correspondent in Vilnius reports that the majority of trade union organizations in Lithuania have decided to become independent and not be governed by either the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] and the dictate of the local state and economic organs or by political movements. The primary trade union organizations are completely independent. Therefore, in their open letter to the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Lithuania, they say that issues related to their structure, property, and to the forms and contents of their activities can be decided only by the workers of the enterprises who are members of the trade unions.

The open letter ends with the statement that trade union property accumulated by trade union fees and other legal means of income belongs not to the state but to the members of the trade union.

Renewed Oil Flow Has No Link to 'Politics'

LD2209033390 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] A few minutes past midnight yesterday the flow of oil to the Mazeikiai oil refinery was renewed after it had been stopped due to technical problems in the Soviet Union. The Lithuanian minister of power engineering commented upon the events by saying it would be naive to link it with politics. The minister criticized attempts at making a sensation of the stoppage of the oil flow and at seeing somebody's evil will behind the incident with the aim of raising panic among the population. All the same, gasoline stations in Vilnius were flooded by cars whose drivers wanted to supply themselves with extra cans of gasoline. Meanwhile, officials of the Mazeikiai oil refinery report that the enterprise has already returned to its full production capacity. To stop the gasoline buying upsurge in Lithuania, the director general of the Lithuanian Fuel company, Jurgis Linkevicius, said he has information that the price of gasoline in the Soviet Union, from which Lithuania gets it, are not going to be raised either in October or as of the new year. So there are no grounds to fear that gasoline prices will go up in Lithania in the near future either. The director general of the Lithuanian Fuel Company said, however, that there is a shortage of high quality coal in Lithuania.

Rally Protests Plan To Remove Vilnius Monument

PM2109132590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 90 First Edition p 5

[Report by Captain Second Class V. Gromak: "Rally by the Monument"]

[Text] Vilnius—A rally organized by the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Citizens' Committee, the Lithuanian Communist Party (CPSU), the Socialist Federation of Lithuanian Working People, the "Vienybe-Yedinstvo-Jednosc" socialist movement for perestroyka in Lithuania, and the republic's youth center was held in Vilnius today by the monument to Army General Chernyakhovskiy.

Feelings about the the monument to Army Gen. Chernyakhovskiy have been running high for quite some time now. Back at the start of the year the newspaper LIETUVOS RYTAS wrote: "In the opinion of the gorispolkom [city soviet executive committee] and most of the population the city center is no place for graves. I. Chernyakhovskiy's widow is asking for his remains not to be transferred to a cemetery just yet. But one way or another, this problem will have to be resolved."

And it has been....

The speakers at the rally voiced their indignation at the proposed outrage against the monument and resolutely protested the city soviet's decision.

"If anyone even tries to dismantle the monument to Gen. Chernyakhovskiy or other monuments we will take extreme measures to prevent it," Yuriy Pavlovich Galtsev, secretary of the Lithuanian SSR Citizens' Committee, stated in conversation with me. The monuments have now been placed under round-the-clock guard by the workers' volunteer militia.

Party Appeals for End to Vandalism of Monuments

LD2109200390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1813 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Vilnius, 21 Sep (TASS)—The secretariat of the Lithuanian Communist Party (CPSU) Central Committee has adopted an appeal to the Communists and to all working people of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] which says: We are appealing to you at a time of terrible danger for our native Soviet Lithuania, for all our families, and for every working person who is a citizen of the Lithuanian SSR. A wave of vandalism is spreading in the republic with regard to monuments to the champions of the working people's cause and to the heroes of the Soviet Army, the liberators of the Lithuanian people from Fascist enslavement. These acts of barbarism, the appeal points out, are taking place on the basis of decisions by the local soviets, the so-called units of self-government, and with the blessing of the leadership of the Supreme Soviet and government of the republic. It is unforgiveable that not one of the republic's political parties, which calls itself the bearer of true democracy, including the reorganized Communist Party of Lithuania, is speaking out against this.

The Secretariat of the Lithuanian Communist Party calls upon the Communists and all the working people of Soviet Lithuanian to come determinedly to the defense of historical and cultural monuments and of the honor and dignity of the Lithuania people and inhabitants of all nationalities in the republic.

Lithuanian Deputies Discuss Ethnic Issues

LD2109221390 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] The parliament's Foreign Affairs Commission today deliberated political questions concerning east

Lithuania. It was noted that forces opposed to independence are using ethnic problems [word indistinct] in this region to destabilize the political situation. The CPSU organization in Lithuania is especially [word indistinct] in this instance, and is unconditionally perpetrating Kremlin policy.

As is know, plans are under way to establish Polish autonomy in east Lithuania, within the Soviet Union's structure and through its efforts.

Members of the Foreign Affairs Commission called attention to the fact that the parliamentarians representing Vilnius and Salcininkai rayons do not recognize the intergrity of Lithuanian territory and to date have not declared their support for the restoration of independence.

In the conference participants' estimation, this type of declaration would help to restore national harmony in East Lithuania and would resolve certain political problems.

In seeking to better satisfy national minority needs in this region plans are under way to establish additional schools with instruction in the native tongue.

RSFSR

Resolution Calls for Government's Resignation

PM2209184590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "RSFSR Session's Working Day"]

[Excerpts] An RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet resolution entitled "On the Resignation of the USSR Government" was adopted 20 September at a joint sitting of the Russian parliament. [passage omitted]

The session's working day traditionally begins with a 30-minute "update." Thus the day before B.N. Yeltsin, the head of the Russian parliament, told deputies about his meeting with V.A. Kryuchkov, chairman of the USSR KGB. The talk touched on all aspects of that organ's activity on Russian territory. According to the head of the Russian parliament, V.A. Kryuchkov agreed to the creation of a Russian security committee. At the Congress of Russian People's Deputies we handed over the functions of the KGB and Ministry of Internal Affairs to the Center, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet chairman said, and that means that at the forthcoming congress we must return to this question and, if its participants so decide, a draft will be submitted to the effect that the republic should have its own KGB and subdivisions in the oblasts, autonomous territories, and krays. They will be subordinate either to the Russian parliament or to the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

RSFSR Resolution Published

PM2109215590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1

["Resolution of the RSFSR (Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic) Supreme Soviet on the Resignation of the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet notes that the current USSR Council of Ministers:
—is incapable of extricating the country from crisis;
—is unable to carry out its constitutional duties of defending the RSFSR's sovereignty;
—has lost the confidence of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;
—and does not enjoy the support of the broad masses of the people.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet resolves:
—to propose that the USSR Supreme Soviet adopt a decision on the resignation without delay of the entire USSR Council of Ministers and adopt urgent measures to form a government that enjoys the confidence of the people on the basis of consultations with the union republics.

[Signed] B.N. Yeltsin, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet
[Dated] House of the Soviets of the RSFSR, Moscow, 20 September 1990

21 Sep Regional Supreme Soviet Proceedings

Moscow TV Outlines Session

LD2109201690

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1840 GMT on 21 September carries a 60-minute recorded relay of the 20 September session of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin. Reception is good.

At 1841 GMT Silayev reads the names of candidates for various posts in the RSFSR Government: Chernogordskiy for the post of chairman of the antimonopoly commission; Kozyrev for the post of foreing minister; and Shoygu for the post of chairman of the committee on Chernobyl. He gives a short description of their biographies and asks that the deputies support the candidates that he has put forward.

At 1846 GMT Deputy Chernogorodskiy takes the floor and speaks about the anti-monopoly committee's concerns, in particular with regard to cooperatives. He calls for strict anti-monopoly measures to protect the rights of the consumer. He then outlines future plans for the work of the committee and says it will support cooperatives which produce consumer goods and food products.

At 1858 GMT a deputy asks Chernogorodskiy just who is considered to be a monopolist. Chernogorodoskiy replies.

Reception is lost at this point.

At 1903 GMT Chernogorodskiy's candidature is rejected by the deputies.

At 1904 GMT Khasbulatov, the chairman, reads the proposals by two committees of the candidature of Shoygu for the post of chairman of the committee on Chernobyl.

At 1905 GMT Shoygu takes the floor and speaks of the extent of contamination by Chernobyl and says that the measures outlined to rectify the situation have not been implemented or have not given the desired results. He calls for more measures to protect those living in the contaminated zone, including calling back construction workers from Armenia to carry out reconstruction in Russia, and for housing in any of Russia to be commandeered for Chernobyl victims, among other things. He says that constant information must be given on radiation in the area, and that the committee's press center would fulfil this function. Considerable currency expenditure is required to purchase food and medical supplies for the victims and to eliminate the consequences.

At 1911 GMT a deputy asks Shoygu why he has switched over to this line of work and why he changed jobs so quickly in the past. And finally, the deputy says, you do not know anything about the area since your main interest in the past has been Siberia.

At 1912 GMT Shoygu replies to these and other questions about his career, defending his candidature.

At 1916 GMT Silayev speaks from the floor, saying he understands the concerns voiced by the deputies and he defends Shoygu's candidacy too. Silayev outlines his own involvement in combatting Chernobyl and speaks of the criticism levelled at the work to eliminate the consequences of the disaster. He then commends Shoygu's personal qualities, saying he passed psychological tests with flying colors. Shoygu's candidature is defeated: 104 votes for, 81 against, 15 abstain.

At 1921 GMT Khasbulatov informs the deputies of Yeltsin's car accident that morning on Gorkiy Street and says that he is being kept under observation in hospital. Some deputies have taken advantage of our unhappy state today by displaying unjustified aggressiveness, Khasbulatov complains. Khasbulatov says that Silayev has said he is therefore unable to present the other two candidates for RSFSR government posts today.

At 1926 GMT a deputy takes the floor and says he has just returned from Afghanistan with promises from the Mujaheddin that they are willing to have talks with Yeltsin regarding the liberation of Soviet POW's. This is met with applause by the deputies.

At 1927 GMT Khasbulatov asks the deputies to vote on sending Travkin's program for local self-government back to committee for redrafting. This is passed by 185 votes for, 7 against, 2 abstain.

At 1928 GMT Khasbulatov speaks of the status of the USSR Academy of Sciences, as given by the recent presidential decree, and says that in his view the decree should be left intact.

At 1930 GMT Khasbulatov invites deputies to take the floor. Deputy Shorin, chairman of the committee for science and the higher school, criticizes the presidential decree. The brain drain in the Soviet Union is likely to be aggravated by the decree, he maintains. Deputy Shorin calls for point 2 to be suspended.

At 1932 GMT the announcer notes that Osipyan then spoke.

At 1934 GMT Khasbulatov asks deputies to vote by name—144 for, 13 against, 36 abstain—for the proposal.

At 1935 GMT the announcer notes that the next question to be discussed was that of Russian soldiers serving outside the RSFSR. The announcer says "The next issue, to which the session devoted close attention, was that of the Army, or more precisely the participation of soldiers called up from the RSFSR to resolve interethnic conflicts in various parts of the country. The deputies adopted a resolution on this matter almost unanimously."

At 1936 GMT a deputy reads an appeal to Gorbachev by Armenians who have gone on hunger strike, including a leading Armenian academecian, calling for the rights of citizens and freedoms in Nagorno-Karabakh to be protected and asking the deputies to support the appeal.

At 1937 GMT a speaker says today's discussion will end on that and we will pick up where we left off tomorrow at 1000 (0600 GMT)

At 1938 GMT the RSFSR Supreme Soviet relay ends.

Deputies Criticize Yeltsin

PM2209195590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by V. Shchepotkin: "In Russian Parliament"]

[Text] Joint sittings of the chambers of the Russian Supreme Soviet now begin with "any other businesss." Some 30 minutes are allocated to this. But Russia's life, pulsating with anxiety, does not always make it possible to fit exactly into the allotted time; this was the case on the morning of 21 September.

"Any other business" began with criticism of B.N. Yeltsin. Its thrust was as follows. According to a promise from the chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, the deputies were to devote several days to meetings with voters: The republic is seething with shortages, is living in a tense situation, and is waiting. But as the first speaker noted, the change in the agenda makes it impossible to do this.

A deputy from Tyumen Oblast criticized the Russian government and its actions. He cited an item in the oblast newspaper in which, quoting remarks in

IZVESTIYA on the conclusion of Russia's treaties with Lithuania and Latvia, the author says that the Russian Government is continuing to squander oil at preferential prices. The deputy demanded that the republic's leadership give explanations on this subject.

Different facets of Russia's sovereignty were touched on in one way or another at the start of the sitting. For instance, deputies were given the draft resolution of the republic's Supreme Soviet "On RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Citizens' Participation in the Solution of Interethnic Conflicts Outside the RSFSR." It envisages ending the practice of sending young Russian men drafted into the Army to eliminate interethnic conflicts in other regions. A number of deputies voiced the firm conviction that this draft must be discussed today. But it was not even put on the agenda.

A deputy from Leningrad Oblast drew attention to the fact that the drastic rise in prices in Estonia had already had an effect on adjacent Russian territories where people are beginning to buy up food and goods.

A keen debate arose over an incident when, according to one deputy, amendments which had not been agreed with the supreme organ of power were introduced behind the scenes, moreover to a decision of the Russian Supreme Soviet. A number of deputies suggested creating a commission to examine this incident. R.I. Khasbulatov, who chaired the morning sitting, was on the point of trying to turn the solution of the question into the "shelved" channel [ruslo "beskomissionosti"] and during the polemics he allowed what was in the view of a number of delegates a not entirely tactful statement. He said that the Supreme Soviet will not vote for your proposal. This was sharply repudiated, right up to a verbal request. As a result the Supreme Soviet created a commission and the deputies showed yet again that they are the main people in this auditorium and those who lead the sitting are merely empowered by them for the purpose.

Silayev Gives Address

LD2109225590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1840 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Speech by Ivan Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, at RSFSR Supreme Soviet session in Moscow on 21 September—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed comrade chairman, esteemed members of the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers submits for your attention more candidates for posts of the relevant ministries and committees of the government. You have to hand the necessary information, the chairman has the materials of the preliminary examination of these candidacies in the committees and commissions, and on the basis of this we submit the following candidacies for your attention: Comrade Andrey Vladimirovich Kozyrev for the post of foreign minister, Comrade Valeriy Petrovich Chernogorodskiy for the post of chairman of the State Committee on antimonopoly policy and support of new economic structures, and Comrade Sergey Khozhugetovich Shoyga for the post of chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] State Committee for elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station].

A few words by way of comment. The post of foreign minister is very important and quite a lot of candidates were discussed. And after all the preliminary discussions, having discussed them throughly and consulting with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, the government is submitting this candidacy. In our opinion, Comrade Kozyrev matches up to the aims and tasks which today face the RSFSR foreign ministry.

Comrade Valeriy Petrovich Chernogorodskiy—I would like to say that the post and functions proposed are a continuation of the work which he started—we have worked with him in the previous structure of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, in the bureau for machine-building. He is a participant and virtually a co-author of virtually all the decisions which were connected with the transfer of certain enterprises from under the ministries, the formation of independent structures, and not only in the sphere of machine building but also in the sphere of agriculture and in other areas of industry. Hence he already has experience, and his program for further activities in the light of the very important tasks defined by the program for transition to the market... for him, he already has previous experience. Comrade Chernogorodskiy is a nonparty member. I have reported to you at one session that comrade Chernogorodskiy has left the party. He was a member of the CPSU.

And finally Comrade Sergey Khozhugetovich Shoyga. He is the youngest of those we are putting to you; born in 1955 he is 35. He is from Tuva by nationality. We have worked quite a lot with him; we have determined his readiness and capability and we consider that despite his youth he is will be quite up to this task. In connection with this I would like to thank you once again, esteemed comrade members of the Supreme Soviet, for accepting the proposal on formation of a state committee to eliminate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. We consider this is a very important decision.

In conclusion, I would request that you support and confirm these candidates for the posts. Thank you.

Silayev Backs Shoyga's Candidacy

LD2209032490 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1916 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Remarks by Ivan Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, at RSFSR Supreme Soviet session in Moscow on 21 September—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed members of the Supreme Soviet! I understand your concern and anxiety and wish to have in this very serious and responsible job a synthesized person who would be a physician and a physicist and a builder and so on. But we understand, I think, that it is not possible to do this. I would like to speak in defense of this candidacy on the following grounds: I think there are not so many people in the hall apart from me who have participated in the elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. The way circumstances have combined means that I have to deal with this matter once again, now as the chairman of the Council of Ministers. So I would say to you to listen to my advice, not just as chairman but as a person who has taken part in this process. I consider that in this work it is very important... also taking into account the features of these regions, I have been there... it is very important to have precise, well-considered, organized work for the mass resettlement of people living in the afflicted zones. When I have met the working people of these zones, the main problem has been helping us get out of here as fast as possilble. There has been much criticism that the organization of work in construction and resettlement and so on is not going satisfactorily. Of course there are questions of medical services as well. Of course there are issues of social aspects, too. There are very many issues there. But the question of organization is indeed the primary one. This means the ability to make things cohesive and organize and implement them in the planned time. We have a program for elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl accident, and you recently adopted a decision that we should amend this program—and I agree, it needs very serious amendment—and present it to you for confirmation at the end of this year. Very serious organizational work is ahead to implement this program. If you leaf through it, even in the version that exists today, there is not much there concerning medicine; there are many issues in it on another plane. That is on the one hand.

On the other hand, concerning the personality of Comrade Shoyga, I would not criticize him for having moved up the promotion ladder quite energetically, and moreover as was said with reference to Shenin, he has in practice... [changes thought] I do not know how much time he could have worked there, judging by his career history, at the time that Comrade Shenin worked there. I would not criticize him for having accepted the invitation to be senior secretary of the gorkom dealing with construction. It is the aspiration of a young man to make his mark, and I see nothing bad in this. Of course, with hindsight each of us could say on a great deal that we should have behaved otherwise, that we should have acted quite differently. And finally, Comrade Shoyga is a talented person. I do not fear to say this. This is the reason for his rather rapid promotion. He is not to be blamed for that. He passed the test of our group of psychologists with flying colors, and to some extent this played a decisive part in my choice. And finally, I would ask you to entrust to me—to the chairman of the Council of Ministers, of course—the main responsibility for the Chernobyl affairs and elimination of the consequences in the afflicted areas, and I request that you support this candidacy.

Status of Academy Determined

LD2109155390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] [Announcer] At the session of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet: We have on the line our correspondents' post in the Russian Supreme Soviet building. Vera Shchelkunova reports:

[Shchelkunova] I am starting all my reports with information about the car accident in which Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin was involved this morning. After the interval, at 1500 Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Khasbulatov reported: Boris Nikolayevich is in the hospital, asserts that he feels all right, and is anxious to get back to work. He received some knocks and bruises. It appears that there are no fractures, but the doctors are insisting on more serious tests.

Thank goodness that the passengers traveling in the Zhiguli which crashed into his car were not hurt much. The crash occurred on the turn from Gorkiy Street when Yeltsin was traveling to the Supreme Soviet.

Now about the work. A storm has raged around the presidential decree on the status of the USSR Academy of Sciences, or to be more exact around Point Two of this decree whereby all the property of the academy is handed over as its own property. Considering that the president was wrong to issue instructions regarding property which is on the territory of the Russian Federation, that is exclusively within the jursidiction of the republic, the Supreme Soviet voted in favor of the effect of Point Two being suspended and is appealing to the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the president, with a request for this point to be repealed. Here it is stressed that it is not simply a question of the academy. They are, you see, deciding the issue of what laws or decrees are in effect in the Russian Federation, that is of its sovereignty.

Yet another very important decision has just been adopted. The Supreme Soviet has found it unacceptable to send citizens of the RSFSR to participate in resolving interethnic conflicts beyond the bounds of the RSFSR. Well, since it is impossible to be an observer on the sidelines in such matters and is simply immoral, the decision is worded like this: It is considered necessary, together with all the Union republics, for an exclusive special period to form interrepublican units of special designation to maintain order in areas of inter ethnic conflicts and in other emergency situations. The bringing up to strength of given units should be carried out exclusively on a voluntary basis.

The joint session of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet of Russia is continuing.

Shorin on Academy Decision

LD2109225190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1928 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Speech by Vadim Pavlovich Shorin, chairman of the Committee for Science and Higher Education at the 21 September Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet session held in the Kremlin—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed people's deputies! The decree of the President of the USSR of 23 August of this year on the status of the USSR Academy of Sciences of course has not escaped your notice. That decree—prepared behind the back of the scientific public, of the Supreme Soviet, and of the government of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] which were not informed of it—is an overt attempt to take away from the Russian Federation its main intellectual potential. That potential is concentrated in the scientific institutions of the USSR Academy of Sciences, which practically are situated entirely on the territory of the RSFSR and which are financed to a significant extent from Russia's resources. The attempt of one person, be it even of the president, to declare a whole sector of the national economy comprising over 300 major scientific research institutes to be the exclusive property of a public organization is unprecedented in the legal respect. With one stroke of the pen, an estate worth many thousands of millions, created over a number of decades by the labor of a whole generation of scientists and by the working people of the country on the whole, has been handed over as the property of a public organization.

If we already have a brain drain abroad in the form of the emigration of individual scientists, then with the implementation of the presidential decree the danger arises that institutes created over the years, and entire collectives, will work for abroad. After all, these public organizations will have the right to work for anyone and under any contracts. Taking account of the fact that the content of Article Two—by this is meant the article under which material resources, structures, and buildings are transferred, the decree of the president contradicts the declaration of the sovereignty of the RSFSR—our committee puts forward a draft decision on suspending the operation of the action of the decree on the status of the USSR Academy of Sciences on the territory of the RSFSR. It has been handed to people's deputies. Thank you for your attention.

22 Sep Regional Supreme Soviet Proceedings

Moscow TV Outlines Session

LD2209215590

Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1740 GMT on 22 September carries a 60-minute recorded account of the 22 September session of the Russian Federated Soviet Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet from the Kremlin. A continuity announcer describes the session and presents short recorded portions of deputies' remarks. Reception is good.

At 1741 GMT Deputy Rudkin proposes Yeltsin should travel by special car. Proposal finds support. The announcer notes deputies expressed concern about draft laws on economy for being too drawn out.

At 1744 GMT a deputy complains at the slow potato harvesting, warning of civil war if people are hungry.

At 1745 GMT Deputy Volkogonov says democrats gave people great hope in the last elections; parliament speaks a lot about principles. It must not lose the trust of the people, or the result will be dictatorship or anarchy.

At 1747 GMT Deputy Shelnakov says that in spite of the Supreme Soviet decision the government has ignored the demand to resign. He protests at this totalitarian reaction and calls for moves against Ryzhkov.

At 1749 GMT a deputy from Penza says the party apparatus in its highest levels remains unpunished for its faults and warns against presidential power. What is Gorbachev going to do about those who do not carry out his decrees?

At 1751 GMT Moscow Oblast Deputy Shakhray supports Volkogonov and warns about possibility of Supreme Soviet being dissolved.

At 1752 GMT Deputy Travkin speaks at rostrum about what happened yesterday at the USSR Supreme Soviet session, outlining the programs put forward. There was no quorum for the vote, but proposals were put forward for presidential rule. He mentions some of the objections made. He says Gorbachev was very full of emotion when he spoke in reply. In spite of attempts to find a quorum for this vote, it remains 16 short.

At 1801 GMT Deputy Adrov demands the Supreme Soviet should adopt a law that any Union law or presidential decree should be ratified by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

The continuity announcer notes a legal opinion on this demand is given, and on presidential rule.

At 1803 GMT Surkov gives legal opinion. The chairman asks the commission to work out and disseminate the legal position on presidential ability to dissolve bodies of power. Comments on this idea are made.

At 1806 GMT the announcer says deputies discussed the decision on media; voting was taken point by point. Wording of various points altered. The motion was voted on and passed. The announcer says another supplement to the agenda was on the question of economic relations: Vitebskiy spoke about a draft decision on this, dealing with price formation in 1991 and outlined an alternative proposal. Named deputies speak on the subject. It was decided to work on the decision thoroughly, and to adopt it as an item of information for the time being.

At 1818 GMT Deputy Kotenkov spoke on behalf of the committee on legislation about the drafting of a law on referenda giving the results of the discussion. The experience of many other countries and also Lithuania was studied. The decisions of a referendum should be binding. There is a lot of debate on who should be allowed to call a referendum. He outlines the practice in various foreign countries.

At 1829 GMT the announcer says the deputies prove proposals in first reading. They are now going on for further elaboration.

At 1830 GMT, at Khasbulatov's request, Deputy Shakhrayev goes back to speaking about presidential power, explaining various versions.

At 1835 GMT the announcer notes that various deputies discussed the statement concerning presidential power.

At 1838 GMT the announcer notes, "Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov read out the statement [of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet concerning presidential powers] with amendments." This is followed by a recording of Khasbulatov saying, "At the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 21 September 1990, the USSR president spoke about the grounds for the necessity to give him special powers. At the current time, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and the RSFSR Council of Ministers are preparing for the practical implementation of the program for the stabilization of the economy and the transition to market relations. The most urgent legal acts are being elaborated and will be adopted in the very near future. The bodies of power and administration—the bodies of power and administration of the RSFSR we mean probably—are acting strictly within the framework of the authority entrusted in them by the peoples of the RSFSR.

"In the situation that has arisen, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet declares: The decision proposed by the USSR president is unacceptable as directed against the interests of sovereign republics." Shouts from the hall are heard. The announcer notes the statement was not adopted.

At 1840 GMT the announcer then notes the deputies concluded their session.

Travkin on Presidential Powers

LD2309052890

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1740 GMT on 22 September carries a 60-minute recorded account of the 22 September session of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet from the Kremlin. At 1752 GMT Deputy Travkin is shown giving a nine-minute account from the rostrum of what transpired at the 21 September USSR Supreme Soviet session.

Travkin outlines the economic alternatives that were put to a vote and for which there was no quorum. He then describes the debate on giving the president special powers which was very stormy. Travkin says: "Mikhail Sergeyevich came to speak. It was said that this was not for broadcasting. I have never seen the president in such an agitated state. Never. It is the first time I have seen the president completely frank [otkrovennyy]. He began with these words—because it was all emotion, and when there is emotion it is hard to control oneself—that it is time to stop pulling the wool over each other's eyes [khvatit pudrit drug druga mozgi]. You all understand perfectly well what is happening. And these [word indistinct] these nightingales of jurisprudence who are proposing measures to be taken against the government, and all of them—by the word 'they' the Russian parliament was of course understood—are aiming at what? Now the resignation of the government, then yours, and then that of the president. So that is how the link was made and in the end the conclusion was drawn. I request you give me special powers and we need to start acting on that level."

Travkin then explains that in spite of Lukyanov's efforts to get a quorum for the vote they were 16 short. "I am certain that if there had been those 16 votes, the hall would have voted for the special powers," Travkin adds.

Travkin goes on to give Gorbachev's examples of how he understands the special powers, and quotes Medvedev on the subject of the nonfulfillment of decrees. Travkin adds: "The hall basically agreed with him [Gorbachev]. I am certain that those 16 votes will be there on Monday, even more will be there, and parliament will vote for giving the president special powers."

Primakov on Gorbachev Request

LD2309162990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Studio interview with Presidential Council member Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov by unidentified announcer on 23 September; from the "Vremya" program—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The mass media are commenting on yesterday's statement by the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium, which speaks in particular about the fact that on 21 September 1990 the USSR president came forward with the proposal that he be granted emergency powers and the right to introduce presidential administration in sovereign republics and to dissolve their higher bodies of state power. We have in the studio Presidential Council member Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov. Yevgeniy Maksimovich, if this is so does this not signify a radical turning point in the country's life.

[Primakov] Well first of all, this is not so, therefore no radical turning point is occurring in the country's life in relation to this. The situation was quite different and I would simply like to tell our television viewers about this. It is as follows. It is well-known that we are now making the transition toward a market economy, a transition that demands emergency measures, that demands urgency in making decisions and that demands a departure from the position that has sometimes justifiably been called here a paralysis of power. Under these conditions, the Supreme Soviet committees propose the transfer of a number of functions to the president be discussed.

What is this about? What functions and for what time period? First, it is intended that this be carried out during the period of the transition to a market economy; that is the first thing. This is a clearly defined time period.

Second, what spheres and what functions? The range of spheres is such: property relations, the organization of the administration of the national economy, the budgeting and finance systems, labor renumeration and price setting, strengthening law and order. In these spheres the president may issue—or, if the Supreme Soviet adopts this—will issue decrees of a normative nature. I will cite just this example. Administrative expenditure needs to be sharply reduced, but the state budget has already been approved by the Supreme Soviet. Let us suppose the president should now reduce it by a certain percentage figure. This would be an enforceable act [normativnyy akt] and moreover would operate in relation to the whole administrative system. The president should do this with urgency, without waiting for discussion of this issue in the Supreme Soviet and so on and so forth. Moreover, this is also implied in the programs that have been prepared, including the one prepared by Shatalin's group.

[Announcer] Excuse me, Yevgeniy Maksimovich, but if this is the case, what will happen? Will the Supreme Soviet be completely pushed aside?

[Primakov] The whole point is that it is not being pushed aside, it is not in any way being pushed aside. The Supreme Soviet, if it agrees, expresses this agreement by not adopting any opposing decisions. If this happens, the president's decree will begin to be implemented without delay. If this is the case, urgency will be simply essential for this historical transition to a market to actually be made, precisely in those areas I have outlined.

What is being discussed is not at all the dissolution of some or other parliaments or depriving someone of sovereignty. This has obsolutely nothing in common with reality.

[Announcer] So, are you convinced that no threat exists to Russia's sovereignty?

[Primakov] I am absolutely convinced that no threat exists either to the sovereignty of Russia or to that of any other republic. Moreover, you know that when this decision was made by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, of course there was perhaps some concern at the basis of it, but this situation is a purely hypothetical one. It does not exist in actual fact. How can decisions be made about a situation that does not exist? At the same time a process is occurring in our country now that seems to me to be extremely important, if not the most important one. This is the rappraochement in positions between the political, the higher political leadership of the country, and the leadership of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. Moreover, this rapprochement is occurring on the basis of on the one hand a full recognition of Russia's sovereignty, and on the other hand recognition of the fact that this republic plays a huge role in the joining, as it were, of other republics inasmuch as this republic has a special significance insofar as its potential and so on are concerned for processes to develop within the framework of the Soviet Union as a whole, with full observation of the sovereignty of everyone. This is what is being discussed.

[Announcer] Thank you, Yevgeniy Maksimovich.

'Powers' Deemed 'Impermissible'

LD2209184290 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—The following statement of the Presidium of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet was circulated here today. It says:

"The Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, acting within the framework of the authority granted to them by the peoples of the Russian Federation, have started the implementation of a programme of the stabilisation of economy and the transition to market relations. With this in view very important laws of the Russian Federation have been worked out and are to be adopted in the forthcoming days.

"At the same time, the Soviet president suggested at the sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet on September 21 that emergency powers be granted to him, including the right to impose presidential rule on sovereign republics and dissolve their supreme authorities.

"The presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation states that in the existing situation

1. The granting to the Soviet president of emergency powers requested by him is impermissible.

2. If the USSR Supreme Soviet grants such powers to the president, the Russian Supreme Soviet, the Presidium of the Russian Supreme Soviet and the president of the Russian parliament will take all necessary measures to protect the Federation.

The presidium of the Russian Supreme Soviet suggests that the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet president and the supreme authorities of the sovereign repubics should urgently work out and adopt coordinated measures for the stabilisation of the economic and political situation in the country, based on a mutual recognition of the sovereignty and constitutional system existing in each of the republics."

The statement has been signed by President of the Russian Federation Boris Yeltsin.

Concern Expressed Over 'Powers'

LD2209090290 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0742 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] We continue our news and music panorama. On the line now is our parliamentary correspondent Andrey Nikiforov. He has already delighted us once this morning with one of his reports. Let us now listen to what has happened in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet so far today.

[Nikiforov] Good morning. In the past hour and a half there has been a very actue discussion at the session. It was evoked by the report of Deputy Travkin about yesterday's session of the country's Supreme Soviet. He said that two weeks had not been enough for the Union parliament to define its position on the programs for the transfer to the market. Yesterday's sitting was supposed to resolve two questions. First, a decision was prepared on the president-Shatalin program; and second, in this connection, a decision to allocate the president special powers to implement this program. But a second decision on the programs appeared which was prepared by the government, and after heated debates neither decision was not adopted due to a lack of a quorum.

Under these circumstances, Deputy Travkin continued, the question of allocating the president of the country special powers was discussed and not decided on because the votes of 16 deputies were missing. But this decision could be made on Monday. I am not opposed to the president having additional powers, Deputy Travkin said, but the program for the transfer to the market has not yet been adopted.

The report given by Deputy Travkin caused a stormy reaction in the hall and caused the deputies concern for the sovereignty of Russia, which has been adopted. Deputy Adrov said it is essential for the Russian parliament to urgently adopt a law on ratification. That is, all the decisions of the country's Supreme Soviet and all presidential decrees should be ratified by the Russian parliament. Deputy Shakhray, chairman of the committee for legislation, said that if direct presidential rule was to be implemented on the territory of the republic and the republican parliament was to be dissolved, then there would be no one to ratify these decisions and decrees. He proposed adopting urgently—before Monday—a decision on the protection of the sovereignty and state structure of the RSFSR. He also proposed the approximate text of this decision which, according to him, should sound like this: In the event of a declaration by the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR president of the introduction of presidential rule and the dissolution of the Russian parliament, the chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet should be given powers to make decisions on the basis of the laws of the RSFSR. Deputy Shakhray stressed that this was possible only if the republic's Supreme Soviet was dissolved.

Deputy Lisin said that before such a serious decision could be made, it is essential to know the opinion of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin; but as I have already said, today the chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet is absent from the sitting.

Another deputy went further than Deputy Lisin and said that he did not wish to have just one-sided information. He asked for peoples deputies of the USSR who are Russians, the country's president, and the chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet to be invited there to the sitting.

As a result of the very acute debates, the legislation committee was instructed to urgently work out the text of a decision.

Session Called 'Very Stormy'

LD2209131490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Now we go over live to the session of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Fedearted Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet. On the line is our correspondents' center in the House of Soviets of Russia, and our parliamentary correspondent Andrey Nikiforov. I expect you can hear us, Andrey.

[Nikiforov] Yes, good afternoon. The joint sitting of the chambers of the Russian Supreme Soviet started today in the traditional way with the miscellaneous business section. The relatively calm development of events was instantly disturbed after information about yesterday's sitting of the country's Supreme Soviet was presented by Deputy Travkin, for a number of reasons which I will not describe in detail now. The Russian deputies were seriously concerned for the republic's sovereignty, adopted at the congress. After a 90-minute debate it was decided that the Committee for Legislation would, as quickly as possible, draft the text of a decision approximately entitled "On the Defense of the Sovereignty and State System of the RSFSR."

[Barshchevskiy] In other words, the sitting was rather stormy and dramatic?

[Nikiforov] Very stormy. The question was a highly difficult one. The decision may well be considered today. At the moment, the deputies are discussing a decision on setting up the Russian mass media. Earlier, I remind our listeners, it was adopted as a starting point and amendments are now being put forward. So what are the main provisions of the decision? First, to found a newspaper of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet; to instruct the appropriate committee of the Supreme Soviet, in conjunction with the republic's Ministry of the Press and Mass Media, to organize the publication, from October 1990 onward, of newspapers in the RSFSR Supreme Soviet—from October this year, you see; and to express no confidence in the editorial collegium of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. Incidentally, just now there were many proposals and amendments from deputies about registering a decision of no confidence in the paper's editor-in-chief....

[Barshchevskiy, interrupting] I do not think it is the first time this has been talked about, is it?

[Nikiforov] No, it is not—to instruct the committee of the Russian Supreme Soviet within one week, in conjunction with the other cofounders of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, and to submit nominations for endorsement by the Supreme Soviet for the post of editor-in-chief of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet is also instructed to establish a commission to share out the property and printing base of the Moscow party publishing houses as compensation for the state funds invested in their development, bearing in mind the lost profits.

Also being tackled is the question of the return of local publishing capacity to the ownership of the Soviets of People's Deputies before 1 January 1991.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 22 September, in an update report on the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session, adds the following "A decision has been adopted on newspapers and magazines of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. The decision envisions, specifically, the founding of a publication of the Russian Parliament. The document also voices no confidence in the editorial collegium of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, and the committee on mass media is instructed to submit nominations within one week for a new editor-in-chief of the newspaper. The same committee is instructed to submit a proposal to the CPSU Central Committee for the transfer of the newspaper to the republic's parliament."]

One other point. The Russian Supreme Soviet, kray, oblast, okrug, town, and rayon soviets of people's deputies in Russia are, within the shortest possible time, to consider the question of independently publishing printed organs of Soviet power. As I have said already, detailed discussion of that decision—draft decision—and the tabling of amendments to it are continuing.

With that, I end my report from the session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

'Alarm for Democracy' Sounded

LD2209164590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] It seems our people's deputies have already become completely accustomed to the fact that Saturday is a normal working day for them.

This also applies to Russian parliamentarians. The Supreme Soviet sitting is progressing tensely and acutely. Many speeches are imbued with sincere alarm about what is occurring in the republic as a whole and in individual regions of it.

What was discussed on this Saturday, 22 September?

[Begin video recording] [Correspondent] The plenary sitting of the chambers traditionally began in the morning with a distinctive limbering-up, including an exchange of opinions on various issues and problems. Alarm and concern were heard in the speech by Deputy Dmitriy Volkogonov.

[Volkogonov] Our parliament is considered democratic in the country, you understand—left-wing. This gives it some kind of prestige, but at the same time we are nevertheless trying to discredit this ourselves in some way: either we speak on the refreshment areas here, or we speak about some kind of third-rate things. We often argue about trivialities. We sometimes set up such a long talking shop, in general terms as it were, on issues completely lacking in significance that could of course be elevated to matters of principle. They really do seem to be principles, especially when spoken about more loudly, but the strength of the vocal chords has never replaced this.

I am sounding the alarm for democracy, for the first shoots that have started to grow. After all, the most terrifying thing is not what may now be said.

I am a historian and philosopher and have for many years been engaged in the technology of power, which gives me grounds for saying taht if the people turn away now, if the people do not believe, if the belief we engendered is betrayed, only one thing awaits us—namely dictatorship with (?ration) cards or anarchy. Let us all think about historic responsibility. These are not loud words because it seems to me that sometimes some of our comrades are not aware of the genuinely colossal responsibility we have to history.

[Correspondent] Then the discussion and adoption of a draft law on newspapers and magazines in the Russian Federation began at the session. [end recording]

Talks Called 'Long,' 'Confused'

LD2209175190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent Vera Shelkunova on the 22 September joint sitting of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Decisions were adopted on serious questions of course, although not on the most serious ones.

Here they are:

A decision on the newspapers of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet was adopted. Many amendments were introduced into the draft during the discussion so I will not quote it; I will just cover the gist of it. New newspapers will be set up including DELOVAYA ROSSIYA [BUSINESS RUSSIA], GOLOS ROSSII [VOICE OF RUSSIA], ROSSISKIY VESTNIK [RUSSIAN HERALD], and possibly magazines.

Concerning the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, which is published by the Supreme Soviet jointly with the Council of Ministers of the Republic and the CPSU Central Committee, it is to be handed over to RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

The candidacies for the post of new editor-in-chief are to be presented at the session within one week.

The leadership of the autonomous republics and local soviets have been recommended to decide the question of independently publishing print organs of soviet power without the participation of party organizations.

Two mutually linked draft laws were adopted today in the first reading, one on a referendum in the RSFSR and one on a local referendum. The first reading signifies that the concept of the draft is acceptable but there is need for it to be examined comprehensively in the committees and commissions and in the chambers and, after such a thorough investigation, to present it once again to the session.

Now, about a decision that was not adopted even though the question was practically the main content of today's working day.

Please excuse me, I have not yet mentioned that Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin was not present at the sitting as before, although it is true he came to the Council of Ministers building later to sign a treaty with the Republic of Moldova.

All were disturbed and extremely concerned by an event yesterday at the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, when the question of granting the country's president special powers was discussed. Perhaps there would have been much less confusion if the Russian deputies had precise information, but there is not yet a brief and we do not have a full account. As a result, today's sitting of the Russian parliament was held under the sinister shadow of a coming dictatorship. This is namely how the possible extraordinary powers of the president are assessed here.

Breaking with the usual procedure of the parliamentary diary, I will not switch on a sound recording of part of the sitting today. It should be given in full or one should refrain from giving it at all. In my opinion, the participants of that long and confused discussion realized that themselves.

In any event, there were persistent demands to Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Khasbulatov to deliver a calm, well-considered commentary on television. Passions raged around the document, decision, statement, or address that, as it were, is necessary to adopt before implementing the already mentioned threat of dictatorship. It even went as far as the vote, but here naturally it turned out that there was not a quorom for such a crucial step although I note there was a quorum for the adoption of the other decisions.

There is obviously only one explanation for that: voting by name. If you are afraid of something do not vote—neither for, against, nor abstained—simply as if you did not exist.

It came to light that almost half of the deputies did not exist today.

Do we need such deputies who do exist, but who do not exist? It is not by accident that demands were made today to convene as an extreme measure an extraordinary congress of people's deputies of the RSFSR so that it can decide what should be done with this invisible part of the Supreme Soviet, as a result of the inactivity of whom the active part of the deputy corps has been forced to place the burden of responsibility upon the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Let it itself adopt or not adopt the decision on protecting the sovereignty of the Russian Federation.

RSFSR Supreme Soviet Postpones 500 Days Plan

LD2309214790 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] The Russian Federation Parliament has announced that the implementation of the economic program known as the 500 days will be adjourned from 1 October to 1 November.

The program, endorsed by the Russian Parliament, calls for a speedy transfer to a market economy through privatization of industrial and trade enterprises.

The national Parliament has so far failed to accept it. The differences between the national and republican leadership are said to be partly responsible for the delay. The population cannot express its attitude to a program which has not been published yet.

Silayev Interviewed on Economic Reform Plans

LD2309053190 Moscow International Service in Czech 1700 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Interview with Ivan Silayev, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers chairman, by an unidentified correspondent; place and date not given—recorded; Silayev speaks in Russian with superimposed Slovak translation; the correspondent speaks in Czech]

[Text] [Correspondent] The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium declared the date when the republic is going to switch to a market economy: 1 October. The program is based on a concept worked out by a group of experts led by Academician Stanislav Shatalin; the concept is called "500 days." This concept is also the basis of a program which Mikhail Gorbachev presented to the USSR Supreme Soviet. It is being discussed together with alternative variants, including those put forward by the Union's government.

Ivan Silayev, premier of the Russian government, expressed his conviction that Union republics will approve the same program as did Russia. Why is he so convinced?

[Silayev] The program was prepared jointly with other Union republics. It is the result of cooperation among all the republics, with the exception of Estonia. The Estonian representatives did not participate in preparing the program. The Union republics expressed favor for the all-Union common market, common currency, and unity of action necessary for implementing economic reform.

[Correspondent] In the Russian premier's view, the consolidation of the Union republics' forces on the economic basis was successfully achieved in the process of preparing the program of switching to a market economy. This approach will enable them to postpone in some republics the implementation of decisions regarding their own currency or customs. Also, totally different structures of mutual cooperation between the sovereign republics in the united voluntary Union will be formed.

[Silayev] As a Union of sovereign states is concerned, the overwhelming majority of full legal, organizational, and administrative powers are to be exercised by the Union republics. The central leadership should exercise that part of the powers which cannot be exercised by each individual republic or the exercise of which is not advantageous for individual republics.

[Correspondent] The main differences between the programs of the USSR Government and the Russian Federation government concern the degree to which the proposed measures are radical.

[Silayev] Our opponents—supporters of the moderately radical program—give as a reason for their moderation the crisis situation in the economy and the entire society. We are, on the contrary, proposing energetic radical measures exactly because of this situation. This is all reflected in the name of the program: 500 days.

We are aware of what we decided; we do not have enough time. Our society cannot wait anymore. And this is why we do not propose some uncertain [word indistinct] ideas without giving deadlines, but we propose a specific plan of joint actions to be taken as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] The program presumes in its first phase to stop negative processes which are under way in the country. Stabilization of the economic situation follows, and then a change for the better is to be achieved. The Rusian premier stressed:

[Silayev] The program counts on the participation of the entire Union. We are not speaking about the republic's program because the Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation, which declared the sovereignty of the republic, spoke on behalf of the Union of all republics. The program takes this principle into account.

[Correspondent] To secure the switch to a market economy in law there is a need to adopt 21 laws; 15 of them are to be approved by the Union republics and six of them by the USSR Supreme Soviet. Ivan Silayev said that even if the central bodies were going to slow down or fight against the approval of these laws—for instance regarding the law on switching to private ownership of land—the Russian program will nevertheless be implemented. The Republic will face in such a case certain difficulties, an extremely undesirable thing.

We do not have time for carrying out referendums, even more so because a law on referendums does not yet exist. In order to get to know people's views we are going to have a one-week break in the deliberations of the Supreme Soviet and the deputies will have an opportunity to meet their electorate.

Answering the question of who is going to fulfill the Shatalin-Yavlinskiy program if the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union approves it, providing the Ryzhkov-Abalkin program is rejected, Ivan Silayev said:

[Silayev] We know that abroad this or that program is being fulfilled by those who outlined it, the authors of the program.

[Correspondent] You have heard an interview given by Ivan Silayev to Moscow Radio.

RSFSR-Moldavian Treaty on Relations Signed

LD2209144390 Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report by TASS parliamentary correspondents Pavel Ostrov and Yuriy Kozmin]

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moldavian President Mircha Snegur signed here today the treaty "On the principles of inter-state relations between the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic and the Soviet Socialist Republic of Moldavia".

The treaty says that the sides "recognise and undertake to respect each other's state sovereignty, relying on the declaration on the state sovereignty of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] and the declaration on the sovereignty of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Moldavia, and refrain from actions which can damage the state sovereignty of the other side".

The treaty emphasises that both sides state their determination to develop mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation between their peoples and states in the political, cultural, scientific-technical, trade and other areas, and promote an extensive information exchange.

Under the treaty, the parties "undertake to outlaw and stop the formation and operation on the territories of their republics of organisations and groups to abolish the sovereign statehood of and infringe on the territorial integrity of the other signatory party or to seize power by force. The parties pledge to cooperate in efforts to combat organised crime, including international terrorism".

The parties to the treaty agreed to exchange official permanent offices to represent the interests of Russia in Moldavia and the interests of Moldavia in Russia.

Yeltsin, Snegur Comment on Pact

LD2209182790 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Treaties on the principles of interstate relations and economic cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Moldova were signed in Moscow today. This is what Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and Mircha Ivanovich Snegur had to say about it:

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] This is another [word indistinct] (?to) the democratic process, the rigid verticle line, so to say, of centralized planning and administration; it is on the transition to relations (?toward) the horizontal between sovereign republics, states, enterprises, and organizations. It is very significant because (?out of fourteen) it is the second treaty—we have signed only a partial treaty with Georgia on economic and cultural cooperation, and today we have found a common view between the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Republic.

This is of course a very important beginning, but the most important thing will be very difficult and important later: its implementation as there are completely new mechanisms of mutual relations, completely new principles we are moving over to in all relations—political, economic, social, and national—between our two sovereign republics.

[Snegur] Both Russia and Moldova, of course, are marching confidently down the road of sovereignty. I think we both understand sovereignty in the same way. It is not euphoria, nor is it a game. It is a treaty on mutually advantageous principles. We will rigorously (?pull together toward) joint actions. Fortunately our formulae coincide. For Moldova and the Moldovan people, this is of course a very great event.

[Yeltsin] We have stated and state again that we signed without any political or economic preliminary conditions. This is very important, particularly now, to calm down the situation, to say no, we are not turning away from anyone, we have not turned away from the Russian-speaking population living in the Republic of Moldova. [words indistinct] [end recording]

Silayev Discusses RSFSR 'Emergency' Harvest

LD2209200990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1740 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Interview with I.S. Silayev, USSR Council of Ministers chairman, by correspondent Vladimir Stefanov; place not given; from the "Topical Interview" program—live or video recorded]

[Text] [Stefanov] Ivan Sepanovich, the pretext for our meeting today, for this interview, is the resolution you signed today on emergency measures to harvest vegetables and potatoes, primarily in the northern and northwestern rayons of Russia. These emergency measures were clearly required by the emergency situation that has developed regarding the harvest.

[Silayev] Yes, you are right. A situation has developed where on one hand there is a good harvest, even of potatoes, a larger harvest than last year; and on the other hand an unlikely climatic situation. The potato fields have been flooded by rain and moisture, creating a critical situation. To understand the situation better, yesterday we gathered the main leaders of the Russian oblasts that either harvest potatoes and deliver them to the towns or consume potatoes. The impression was given that this emergency situation, which well suits perhaps the complex processes taking place, has had a different effect on different leaders. It was nice to listen to the leaders of Kaluga oblast where the same amount of rain has created the same difficulties but where work has been highly organized and every possible opportunity has been taken, including assistance from villagers and the military, to help them cope almost completely with carrying out set state deliveries.

Other leaders also begin their reports with how many rainy days they have had, that they have only had one and one half days that were fine and it poured the rest of the time. They have lost heart and can no longer see any possibility of active work.

I was born in the countryside myself. I saw the sun and rain for myself at that time of my life, and I know how the peasants fight for their harvest. I cannot agree and I stated my opinion yesterday to our esteemed leaders of certain oblasts that there can be potatoes and that it is possible to get at them, even if they are underwater! Many agreed that additional, vigorous measures were needed and these we worked out yesterday.

[Stefanov] What do these measures really include? What did the leaders take home, so to speak, from the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers?

[Silayev] I think they went back determined to some extent to harvest the potatoes. What is needed for this? People, the required number; transportation; some deviation from the accepted standards. We support any preferential prices on potatoes.

We support in the end the forfeit of portions of the fields so that those in greatest need of potatoes can pick them, in some places for minimal sums, elsewhere free of charge.

[Stefanov] Free of charge, just to preserve a....

[Silayev, interrupting] Potatoes will either be lost or end up on the tables of working people who pick them themselves.

We are instructing district commanders on our territories too, and yesterday we found a common language. They are prepared to mobilize their potential, including soldiers and training establishment officers. Then we adopted a decision to extend for one month the resolution calling upon our institutes and universities to send students into the field to bring in the harvest. Essentially we need 20-25 days of what I would call a furious fight, nonstop, round-the-clock, for relative success on vegetables—potatoes to be precise.

[Stefanov] Ivan Stepanovich, once again we are basically talking about emergency administrative measures. The chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic has once again unfortunately been forced to talk about potatoes, carrots, and onions.

Do you think these actions and measures counter the line that is now being adopted by the government of the Republic and the Supreme Soviet on the economy operating, above all, according to economic laws rather than administrative measures?

[Silayev] You are right, of course. This is a contradiction; we are contradicting our internal conviction for if we delay the start of the implementation of the 500 days program, if we postpone as before the adoption of decisive measures on the transition to market relations, we will be daily and hourly launching an onslaught on something, calling for something and will be endlessly declaring emergency and crisis situations. In the end such sporadic, jerky movements and vagueness will not be sufficient for long either for us or for our citizens.

In this situation, I wish to repeat that only the transition to market relations, only the transfer to collective use and individual and private use of land and property, will permit the government in a year perhaps, or 18 months, to forget that it was ever occupied with such issues and to concern itself with the fundamental issues of state activity. I am certain that we, working energetically on the principles in the 500 days program, will be able to free ourselves of concern for such issues as early as next year.

[Stefanov] Let us hope so. Ivan Stepanovich, you not so long ago spent some time in the Russian heartland. I know you travelled through Tver Oblast, Staritskiy Rayon, and remote villages, and to the best of my knowledge you did not travel in a Volga [brand of automobile] along the local roads but rather in a VAZ. You conversed with people, in general glanced at life in our Russian countryside from the inside.

Tell me, do people know about the 500 days program there? What is thought about that part of it which concerns rural areas? What thoughts were expressed, as it were, by those people with whom you spoke? And has your position changed at all since this journey?

[Silayev] Yes, I really did succeed in meeting both peasants and workers, officials and factory managers. My first trip was before the adoption of the 500 days program.

The Bryansk task was a special purpose one: to look into the situation in the contaminated rayons. But I was in Arkhangelsk after the adoption of the 500 days program. However, my views did not change either before or after for the principles were already well-known. I had already assimilated the aims and tasks of this program very well, had felt them and absorbed them internally, let us say.

What impressions did I have? I would express, all the same, my impression of the country and the town. My impression of the country is that splendid people live there, modest toilers but all the same crushed and worn by heavy physical labor, exhausting work, by weak social conditions, by the virtual absence of any normal medical service, and so on.

What will the 500 days program bring to the peasant? The program's authors consider that a fully directed special purpose program of interaction with rural areas is required, not simply endless capital investment as a whole, in general, but definite aims.

It seems to us that the following approaches should be included in the program: the state should take upon itself—the republic—expenditure on constructing all roads; on rendering help in medical services; on installing telephone and communciation lines; and on other large-scale issues that are beyond, let us say, the peasant farms. At the same time and within the system of economic measures, we will create the conditions which would permit local power bodies and the peasants themselves in the regions to solve many tasks independently.

That is, we propose that a treaty be signed; that we should form for five years a program of definite capital investment with special purpose designation and with specific aims and tasks and that the Peasants' Union—let us suppose in particular we have such a thing—should take corresponding obligations upon itself as to how it will make use of these resources, what results it should achieve, what the state and those in the state who are not in the agricultural sphere should receive, and how our shelves should be filled. Thus we favor energeticaly helping rural areas, helping them purposefully and with meaning and on an equal footing, on the basis of a treaty.

As you see, I am not only an active supporter but I actively defend this program. I am convinced—not only me but also the deputies of the Supreme Soviet and members of our government—that the more we delay, move the start of the implementaiton of the fundamental principles in this program, the worse it will be for us and for our population.

It would be good to know how those living in the Russian republic, our fellow citizens, appraise our activities, and what they would like to say to us. I know they are alarmed by the fact that not everything is clear to them. There at the top, in Moscow, some disputes are underway, battles are flaring about how the government program differs from the presidential program. How does Shatalin's program differ from the government program? It is quite right that this should be asked.

Taking this into account, we are taking the following measures: Very soon, around 200,000 copies of this program will be published. Then we intend, with the help of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, to publish 20 million brief versions of this program as an edition of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA. If this happens, we are counting on our citizens being able to look attentively into it and to determine what is strong there, what failings there are, so that they may say what needs to be amended.

There will be an opportunity to make amendments. We promise our citizens that we will keep them informed, that we will bring all of this to them in intelligible form by any of the mass media. We are relying on support from those living in our Russian Republic.

Coverage of Yeltsin's Condition After Accident

In 'Excellent' Health

LD2109160290 Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by TASS correspondents Aleksandr Borisov, Yuriy Kozmin, and Pavel Ostrov]

[Text] Moscow September 21 TASS—The state of health of Boris Yeltsin after a car crash this morning is "excellent," First Vice President of the Russian Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov told the parliament's plenary meeting here today.

He said Yeltsin insisted on attending tomorrow's session of the Russian Parliament. "You will agree that this alone tells he is all right," Khasbulatov stressed.

But, Khasbulatov said, it would be unwise for Yeltsin to attend the session as the medical examination had not yet been completed.

[In an earlier report, Moscow TASS in English at 1438 GMT on 21 September said: "Yeltsin's right hip bone was badly hit in the collision but, according to Khasbulatov, the preliminary medical check revealed no fracture. 'Besides, Yeltsin's head received a slight shock,' Khasbulatov said, stressing the word 'slight.' He said he believed that Yeltsin was 'in need of treatment and rest.'"]

Chairman of the USSR Interior Ministry's Traffic Inspection Directorate Boris Koriakovtsev told TASS that the collision had occurred at the crossing of Tverskaya (former Gorkiy) Street and the Aleksandr Nevskiy Lane.

A traffic inspector at the crossroads signalled to a stop all vehicles that moved down the street towards the centre. He then gave a signal to the car in which Yeltsin was riding to continue moving and saw it begin a left turn, when a Zhiguli car from the right-hand lane hit the Yeltsin car on the right-hand side. According to pensioner Yerin from the town of Khimki outside Moscow, who drove the Zhiguli car, he had failed to see the gesture of the traffic inspector and noticed the other car at the very last moment when it speeded up in front of him. Yerin stepped on the brakes but was unable to avoid the collision.

According to the state traffic inspection chief, after the collision Yeltsin left his car without assistance, got into the back-up car and rode away.

Koriakovtsev said, that on-the-spot investigation showed that Yerin was to blame for the accident.

Further Details on Accident

PM2109181990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by G. Alimov and S. Mushkaterov under the "Incident" rubric: "Accident on Gorkiy Street"]

[Text] At 0825 hours, 21 September, an official GAZ-3102 vehicle carrying Boris Yeltsin, chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, was involved in an accident.

As reported by V. Martynov, chief of the Moscow Gorispolkom [City Soviet Executive Committee] Main Administration of Internal Affairs press service, this occurred at the interersection of Gorkiy Street and Aleksandr Nevskiy Alley. The driver, born in 1935, with 27 years of driving experience, a pensioner living in the city of Khimki, was driving his own VAZ-2102 car from the oblast toward the city center. Proceeding along the inside lane, he drove on despite a signal to the contrary from the traffic-controller and collided with the automobile carrying the head of the Russian parliament as it was crossing Gorkiy Street.

B. Yeltsin was not injured [ne postradal]. After the accident he was taken to hospital in a backup car. A staffer of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet chairman's office reported that Boris Nikolayevich feels normal. He is is undergoing a routine medical examination.

Bodyguard Interviewed

PM2209152190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 p 1

[Interview with Aleksandr Vasilyevich, a member of B.N. Yeltsin's bodyguard, by I. Sichka; place and date not given: "At First Hand"]

[Text] [Vasilyevich] At the moment of the crash Boris Nikolayevich was in the front seat and took the brunt of the collision; the Zhiguli in fact cut into the right front door. The side pillar caught his head and he was struck a powerful blow to the thigh. The rear door was also wedged and I had difficulty getting out of the automobile. I immediately helped Boris Nikolayevich to get out. He is a strong man; he lost neither consciousness nor self-possession. We got into the backup vehicle following behind and Boris Nikolayevich ordered me to not to change the route—he was going to work. But on the way his condition deteriorated and we decided to take him home. We immediately called doctors. After examining him they advised Boris Nikolayevich to undergo a more detailed investigation in the hospital. He is now in the central Kuntsevo hospital.

[Sichka] How could this accident happen at all? You were driving without an escort?

[Vasilyevich] We always drive without an escort. Boris Nikolayevich does not allow all these escorts to be set up with sirens wailing and traffic lights turned off and so forth. We drive like all normal people.

[Sichka] Is this the first such case in your practice?

[Vasilyevich] No, it is not the first.

[Sichka] Do you think it was an accident?

[Vasilyevich] I formed the impression there was no deliberate intent here.

Moscow Soviet Issues Ultimatum to Governments

LD2109201190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Either the Moscow Soviet's proposals should be supported from above, which would permit a natural exchange fund to be created and the capital to be fed, or it will be necessary for it to resort to extreme measures and cease to serve the government establishments located in Moscow. This, briefly, is how the Moscow Soviet's ultimatum described how the USSR and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] governments could be formulated. This was discussed at a consultation with leading Union and republican enterprises; the Moscow Soviet convened the meeting on 21 September. It was noted at the meeting that although both governments understand the complex situation in which Moscow finds itself and are sincerely trying to help it very quickly, the proposals were lying at the agreement stage at USSR State Planning Committee and other establishments. Time does not wait.

Sobchak Describes Government Ambitions as 'Rumors'

PM2209155590 Moscow TRUD in Russian 22 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by N. Nikolayev: "A. Sobchak Remains in Leningrad"]

[Text] Reports have appeared in the press that the Centrist Bloc of political parties is engaged in forming a new coalition government for the country at whose head it would like to see A.A. Sobchak.

At a press conference held by the bloc it was stated that Anatoliy Aleksandrovich has given his agreement in principle to this. Speaking on Leningrad television, A. Sobchak denied this report and described it as nothing more than rumors. He stated that he is loyal to Leningrad and does not intend to leave his native city.

Lukyanov, Church Officials Mark Moscow Day

LD2309161390 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 23 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Anna Grigoryeva and Aleksande Budris]

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—A patriarchal divine service at the Assumption Cathedral of the Moscow Kremlin became part of the celebrations of the Moscow Day. The divine liturgy was celebrated in the largest 500-year-old Kremlin cathedral.

The liturgy was served by Patriarch Aleksiy the second together with hierarchs and the Moscow clergy. Moscow believers attended the service. The patriarchal church choir and the choir of the Holy Trinity-St. Sergius Lavra sang beutifully.

The service was attended by chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Anatoliy Lukyanov, prime minister of the Russian Federation Ivan Silayev and chairman of the Moscow City Council Gavriil Popov.

After the liturgy was over, a religious procession with cross and banners moved from the Kremlin through the Gate of the Trinity Tower to the Ascension church near the Nikitskie Vorota. The church is famous, because the great Russian poet Aleksandr Pushkin married there his beautiful bride Natalya Goncharova.

A ceremony of the return of the cathedral to the Russian Orthodox Church took place there. A thankgiving service was held on this occasion.

On behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church and all believers Patriarch Aleksiy thanked the authorities for having returned the cathedral and for taking part in its restoration. The patriarch pointed out with satisfaction that the return of cathedrals was a sign of the revival of spiritual and moral ideals in the country.

According to the Council for Religious Affairs at the Soviet Council of Ministers, some 6,500 religious communities were registered in the country during the perestroyka years, i.e. every third parish is a new one. Local authorities turn over to religious communities christian cathedrals, mosques, synagogues and other religious buildings.

The patriarch said that two cathedrals—the Assumption Cathedral of the Kremlin and the Ascension Church—witnessed today the first signs of the reviving spiritual life. He congratulated Muscovites on the occasion of the Moscow day and urged believers to take an active part in the restoration of churches. The patriarch said that everybody should promote the principles of kindness and revival, follow the path of Christian love and accord which are now so necessary throughout the world.

Vladivostok Suffers 20-Hour Power Outage

LD2209143990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Alarming news has just been received from Vladivostok. This town of 700,000 inhabitants was without light for almost 20 hours. At 1845 local time yesterday electric trains, trams, and trolleybuses suddenly came to a standstill along their routes, all enterprises halted, and light was extinguished in the hospitals.

All through the night people were lost in conjecture and there was no opportunity to notify them about the reasons for what had occurred, as not even the radio stations were functioning.

A TASS correspondent was told at the emergency commission attached to the town soviet executive committee that district Heating and Power Station No. 2 had stopped working in the suburbs of Vladivostock. The causes of the incident are being ascertained.

Several emergency teams were formed and the military came to the town's assistance, assigning mobile power generators to the hospitals. The naval hospital received patients from first-aid vehicles. The services of the floating hospital ship Ob and the sick bay of the cruiser Minsk were made available. In the squares and streets of Vladivostok sailors operated field kitchens and naval gas tankers supplied vehicles with fuel. Nevertheless the situation remains extremely tense. It is reported that fortunately there have been no casualties.

It was only toward the end of a 24-hour period that success was achieved in providing satisfactory supplies of electricity, food, and water for Vladivostok. Hundreds of indignant people keep telephoning the town soviet executive committee, asking for guarantees that a similar incident will not be repeated at another time of the year, especially with the advent of the cold weather.

Let me add that inhabitants of Moscow's Krasnogvardeyskiy Rayon telephoned our editorial office today. Even on the city's own day there has been no light in many of the capital's apartments since 1100. People with electric stoves are unable to cook their food. It is likely that their mood today is far from festive.

However, to return to events in Vladivostok. You will have noticed that Tets No. 2 stopped functioning. But if there is a No. 2 Tets there should surely also be a No. 1 Tets. So why then was this Tets No. 1 also not operating? That is a mystery.

Food Shortage Causes State of Emergency in Penza

LD2309063990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] A state of emergency has been declared in Penza. The Presidium of the city soviet has reacted categorically to the real threat of being without sufficient basic foodstuffs during the coming winter. At present, less than 10 percent of potatoes and carrots have been stored. The situation is no better with other vegetables. A special headquarters has been given the right to mobilize blue- and white-collar workers and students to help in the countryside and to use any goods and passenger transport in these tasks.

Karelia Stops Timber Deliveries to RSFSR

LD2409094590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 24 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As of today Karelia [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] will cease deliveries to the Russian Federation of sawn-timber and lumber. This decision has been prompted by the disruption to the latest consignments of provisions from Russia to Karelia. The Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic also plans to take the same action.

Western Republics

Public Meeting of Gomel Strike Committee Held

90UN2801B Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 15 Aug 90 p 3

[Article by A. Gotovchits under the rubric "The Special Attention Zone": "Public Meeting in Gomel"]

[Text] A sanctioned public meeting took place on 9 August at Vosstaniya Square in Gomel. It was conceived and supported by the city Soviet of People's Deputies as a sort of report to the people by the strike committee.

The participants of the public meeting observed a minute of silence in memory of the victims of the atomic bombing of the Japanese city of Nagasaki, which took place on this day 45 years ago.

In their speeches, members of the strike committee A. Gurachevskiy, Ye. Murashko, S. Simkina, N. Kruka, and others reported that the committee had undertaken to defend people residing on territories with low levels of radioactive contamination. Rallies; strikes; the civil action "March for Survival" from Gomel to Moscow; and the meeting with N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, have taken place to this end.

As a result the demands of the labor collectives of Gomel as well as questions raised by the local soviet organs were examined at the end of July by a governmental commission of the USSR headed by V. Doguzhiyev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, with the participation of the strike committee. A protocol with the special designation VD-3260 was signed by: V. Doguzhiyev; V. Kebich, chairman of the Belorussian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers; N. Voytenkov and L. Sechko, chairmen of the Gomel Oblispolkom [Oblast Soviet Executive Committee]; and members of the strike committee.

The protocol defines measures for improving medical services to the population and providing food goods and social protections. All of this gave USSR People's Deputy V. Korneyenko occasion to say that the city strike committee has in fact proved its vitality.

While viewing the efforts of the strike committee positively, the participants of the public meeting nonetheless expressed their apprehension with regard to fulfillment of what had been outlined. In this connection the following parallels were also drawn: Despite a program adopted in the republic and in the country to clean up the effects of the disaster, the residents of the city have not sensed any real concern about them. It was noted that not one paragraph of the protocol signed by V. Kebich, chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers, concerning the results of the 5 March meeting in Gomel has been carried out. As a result, there was an appeal at the public meeting to workers of enterprises and associations to close ranks more tightly in the fight to eliminate effects of the disaster. Otherwise it will come to what was written on one of the placards: "Promises are made to be broken, and they gave us protocol VD-3260 as a sop."

Irzhi Beranek, codirector of the Gomel headquarters of the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] talked about the fact that the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power station "has its tragic aspects" for the oblast and the city. He believes that the silence about the situation is the primary cause for the absence of effective measures to clean up the effects of the disaster. Judging by I. Beranek's statement, the experts of the IAEA are preparing to publish comprehensive recommendations to the population on how to conduct oneself in a contaminated zone so that "one may almost live under normal conditions."

In the resolution that was adopted, the meeting's participants demanded execution of all the provisions of the protocol signed by the USSR governmental commission headed by V. Doguzhiyev, its publication in the press, and a monthly report on the results of what has been done. The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers should immediately decide the question of granting Gomel and the oblast the status of a free enterprise zone with the goal of creating the economic conditions to solve the problems created by the Chernobyl disaster. The public meeting was in favor of bringing a suit through the International Court against the USSR Ministry of the Atomic Energy Industry for full compensation for losses suffered by Belorussia. There was also a demand that the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet immediately demarcate powers between the Soviets of People's Deputies, establish contractual relations, and resolve disputes between them only by way of a referendum of the voters. The meeting adopted a resolution demanding immediate fulfillment of the 28th CPSU Congress resolution with regard to transferring the appropriate materials to the USSR Procuracy and conducting an investigation of the actions of all leaders responsible for the Chernobyl tragedy.

Draft of Auditing Panel Regulations Published

90UN2795C Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDOVA in Russian 21 Aug 90 p 3

["Draft Regulations on the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova"—first three paragraphs are editorial introduction entitled "An Invitation to Discussion"]

[Text] A new electoral organ was created at the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Moldova alongside the Central Committee—the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova is guided by the CPSU Rules and these present regulations, and it is independent in its activities and accountable only to the party congress.

Today the Bureau of the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova presents draft regulations on the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova for discussion in order to take the opinion of Communists and party organizations into broader consideration and to introduce amendments and supplements proposed by the party aktiv for the development of a final edition of this document. Our starting point is the place and role of the Communist Party of the republic in modern society, the functions, forms, means, and methods of party monitoring organs on collective and democratic principles, and the personal accountability of each member of the Auditing Commission.

We ask that proposals and notes be sent to the following address: 277033, Kishinev, 105 Lenin Prospect, Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova. You may also send your impressions to the editorial board of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA MOLDOVA.

DRAFT.

Regulations on the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova

1. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova is elected by a congress of the republic's party organization with the goal of monitoring the activities of party organs and their apparat and institutions and of monitoring the observation of rules in party organizations.

The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova is guided by the CPSU Rules and these present regulations, and it is independent in its activities and accountable only to the party congress.

2. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova:

—monitors implementation of program documents and the CPSU Rules as well as of rulings of congresses and conferences of the Communist Party of Moldova; it monitors observation of democratic principles in the activities of the Communist Party of Moldova Central Committee and its executive organs. It protests their rulings if they do not correspond to the statutes of programs and rules;

—takes measures in instances of the appearance of excessive bureaucracy, subjectivity, suppression of criticism, abuse of an official position, and arbitrariness in party policy;

—contributes to the consolidation of party ranks and party comradeship and to the strengthening of authority and independence of the primary party organizations;

—within the bounds of its jurisdiction defends the rights, honor, and dignity of Communists;

—ensures that in party organizations and electoral party organs the right of the minority to defend its position is not infringed upon and that rulings which have been adopted are carried out by all Communists;

—monitors observation of the established procedure for examining appeals of party organizations, letters, and declarations in the Communist Party of Moldova Central Committee and its executive organs, apparat, institutions, and enterprises;

—examines appeals it receives from party organizations and Communists, conducts examinations with regard to them, adopts the necessary decrees, and introduces proposals to eliminate defects that have been revealed;

—demands explanations and brings action against any communist undermining party discipline, norms of public morality, or the authority of the party by his actions;

—the rulings of the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova concerning expulsion from the party are brought to the appropriate primary party organization. In the event that the latter objects, they are examined a second time with the participation of representatives of that party organization after which a final decision is made;

—examines appeals to the rulings of city and rayon committees of the Communist Party of Moldova and of the appropriate Auditing Commissions concerning expulsion from the party and punishments;

—examines differences arising between city and rayon party committees and the corresponding Auditing Commissions;

—develops measures to improve monitoring efforts, renders assistance in appropriate methods to Auditing Commissions of city and rayon party organizations, and analyzes and summarizes the practice of party monitoring.

3. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova is elected from a staff determined by the congress of the Communist Party of Moldova. Members of the Auditing Commission may also be elected by way of direct delegation of representatives from subordinate organizations.

Communists elected to the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova cannot join the staff of the Communist Party of Moldova Central Committee.

The procedure for electing a chairman of the Auditing Commission is determined by the congress of the Communist Party of Moldova.

A plenary meeting of the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova is conducted when necessary but not less often than twice per year, as well as at the demand of one-third of the members of the Auditing Commission.

4. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova elects a standing organ—the Bureau of the Auditing Commission Communist Party of Moldova, including a chairman and a deputy chairman—at its plenum, it creates standing working groups on its activities from the members of the Auditing Commission, and it defines the authority of the Auditing Commission Bureau and working groups.

Every year the Auditing Commission Bureau presents the plenum of the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova with an account of its activities.

5. Members of the Auditing Commission have the right to participate, exercising a deliberative vote, in the plenums and commissions of the Communist Party of Moldova Central Committee.

The chairman of the Auditing Commission and his deputy participate in the meetings of the Bureau and Secretariat of the Communist Party of Moldova Central Committee, exercising a deliberative vote.

6. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova carries out its work publicly and publishes its decrees in the party press.

The Auditing Commission systematically informs party organizations about its activities. Members of the Auditing Commission regularly report back to the party organizations.

7. The Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova maintains the apparat necessary for its work and supplies its activities with materials and equipment at the expense of funds from the party budget. Funds for these goals are determined at joint plenums of the Central Committee and the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova.

8. Differences arising between the Auditing Commission and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldova are resolved at conciliation boards created on an equal footing as well as at joint meetings of the Bureaus and plenums of the Central Committee and Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova. A joint ruling is considered to have been adopted if not less than two-thirds of the votes of members of the appropriate organs vote in favor of it when voting is conducted on individual items.

When necessary, the Auditing Commission has the right to convene a special congress or conference of the Communist Party of Moldova.

9. On questions relating to its conduct, the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova adopts decrees and approves acts concerning the results of inspections and brings them to the appropriate party committees and leaders, who are obligated to inform the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova of measures they have adopted.

In the execution of their duties, members of the Auditing Commission of the Communist Party of Moldova and workers in the apparat of the commission have the right to use all documents of the Communist Party of Moldova.

'Rumors' Spark Panic Buying in Nikolayev Oblast

LD2209171990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Summary] Rumors of price rises and of halted deliveries sparked off panic buying of perishable goods in Nikolayev on Saturday. At the oblast soviet of people's deputies the radio correspondent was told that there is no reason for the panic since the oblast has gathered in the best harvest of the decade, more than 40 quintals per hectare of wheat with good harvests of sunflower seeds, sugar beet, and vegetables as well.

Donetsk Protesters Decry Monuments' Destruction

LD2109225290 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Donetsk, 21 Sep (TASS)—More than 5,000 people came to the central square in Donetsk today at the end of the working day. Here, by the monument to Lenin, a working meeting was held which had been organized by the council of the labor collective of the Rutchenkovsiy Repair Factory.

The speeches of those taking part—and only some of the 150 who had asked to do so managed to speak in the time set aside—expressed profound concern and indignation at the news of monuments to V.I. Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, being dismantled in Lvov, Ivano-Frankovsk, and Ternopol Oblsasts (West Ukraine) and at attempts by extremist forces to carry out such an action in Donetsk.

In a resolution adopted unanimously at the meeting, categorical condemnation of the anti-Lenin campaign and the demand to stop acts of vandalism regarding monuments to Lenin and actions desecrating monuments to liberator-troops were voiced. The working people of the Donbass demanded that the Supreme Soviet of the country and the republic adopt immediate measures aimed at compliance with the law on protecting historical monuments.

Many people in Donbass today share this view as attested by the letters and cables received by the secretariat of the meeting. More than 20,000 signatures have already been appended by the workers of the mining area to on appeal from the buro of the Donetsk Oblast Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party to all Communists, party organizations, working people and the entire population of the oblast which states the impermissibility of destorting history and slandering Lenin.

Ukrainian Factory To Pay Pollution Damages

LD2109211290 Moscow TASS in English 2019 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report by UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent Boris Gertsenov]

[Text] Donetsk September 21 TASS—A Defence Ministry chemical factory will pay seven million roubles for damage inflicted on the coal industry in the city of Gorlovka, Ukraine.

This unprecedented ruling was today passed by a state arbitration tribunal which examined a claim by the Artemugol coal amalgamation in an open court hearing.

Miners had instituted an action against the factory for a large sum, demanding repayment of damages incurred through the fault of the factory.

Chlorobenzene and other products used at the factory, as well as industrial waste, had been seeping through soil until they reached the workings of the Aleksandr-Zapad mine.

The high concentration of Chlorobenzene vapours resulted in an accident and the death of three miners in December 1989. In addition, 188 rescuers and workers who helped in rescue operation were poisoned and hospitalised.

An independent economic and legal examination conducted by the Industrial Economics Institute in the Ukraine confirmed the legality of miners' claims. As a result of poisoning, the Aleksandr-Zapad mine was shut down, and it is not known whether it will open.

The mine suffered losses, since it produced high-grade coal.

The court ruling sets off losses only for the first four months after the accident. The plaintiff has reserved the right for further claims.

PRAVDA Editor Frolov Tours Vinnitsa Oblast

PM1909102590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
14 Sep 90 Second Edition p 2

[Report by special correspondents S. Kolesnikov and M. Odinets: "Meetings With Readers—Hope and Anxiety"]

[Text] Hope and anxiety—this is how the state of public awareness might be briefly described today at a time of political squabbles and diabolical shortages, a period of intense quest for a way out of the economic crisis and the captious confrontation caused by the proposed alternatives.

Heated discussions are taking place all over the country, and of course the meetings between [I.T. Frolov], chief editor of PRAVDA and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and working people of Vinnitsa Oblast were no exception. Wherever conversations were held—in a kolkhoz [collective farm] club, village school, or obkom [oblast committee] conference hall—similar questions were heard everywhere: How to improve matters in the economy and stabilize the situation in the country; what transition to the market holds in store for us; which of the political and economic program options is preferable; and finally when will the tobacco and sock situations be successfully resolved.... And of course there was talk about PRAVDA—its new role in a renewed society and party, and the newspaper's position in the political struggle.

Vinnitsa Oblast is one of the most stably functioning areas in the Ukraine. And this year a good harvest has been produced, and most importantly gathered, here—more than 60 quintals of grain per hectare have been gathered on a number of farms. The region is a major supplier of meat and sugar. And the kolkhoz stores, from a Moscow viewpoint, look perfectly sound. At least bread and salami produced locally by the Union of Consumer Trade Cooperatives have been permanently on the shelves recently. It is true that the following detail also sticks in the memory: We saw a touching display of flowers arranged in thematic bouquets in the corridor of the village school in the village of Zhabokrich, in Kryzhopolskiy Rayon. Among the exhibits, a bank of salad made up of sea kale in a border of green leaves and the sign: "Our stores are empty, they only have sea kale" stuck out like a sore thumb. A sort of "ikebana"....

But of course, joking aside, the same shortages disrupt trade in Vinnitsa as in other areas of the country. The task of easing the burden of foodstuff shortages is being doggedly worked on in the oblast at the present time. This is a perfectly realistic task according to V. Khizhnyak, first secretary of Nemirovskiy Ukrainian Communist Party Raykom [rayon committee], for example. But for the time being a large proportion of agricultural produce is shipped outside the oblast; this, by the way, causes the peasants no offense because they understand, sometimes better than any politicians, the meaning of normal barter and cooperation between regions.

Vinnitsa has been recently raided by flying pickets [desanty] bussed in from Lvov Oblast and a number of other places. The aim of these "raids," their organizers claim, is to rouse the "sleeping" inhabitants of the Vinnitsa region and to drastically raise the political temperature. However this "export of revolution" does not meet with an enthusiastic response from most people. We were told of a recent incident when, at the height of the harvesting, a service station—with support from kolkhoz members who had gathered there—refused to supply gasoline for the bus used by yet another group of "flying pickets."

People want stability, normal living and working conditions, and clear prospects. Hence the note of anxiety creeping into questions heard during the meetings in Vinnitsa Oblast: "What is the party doing to change the situation for the better?" "How are market relations to be introduced when the country is virtually ungovernable?" "Whole hopper loads of grain cannot be processed quickly enough on the elevators. So why is there a shortage of bread in the capital and other large centers?" "Is perestroyka a progressive phenomenon, or not?"

Replying to these and many other questions, I.T. Frolov noted that perestroyka is above all a process triggered by the necessity of extricating society from the crisis which had intensified during the so-called "years of stagnation." Of course many mistakes were committed in the course of perestroyka too. Above all, economic and political stability were not achieved, and the strategic course toward accelerating scientific and technological progress which was so strongly promised at the beginning of the renewal process had not been continued. Finally, cadre policy and the January 1987 plenum line were not implemented as decisively or as assuredly as circumstances demanded. Yes, things are difficult for us at present. Much has been done differently to the way it was seen three or four years ago. But without perestroyka we simply would not have rid ourselves of the lack of freedom which dogged us for long decades.

At the present time the top priority task is to take control of the situation and ensure stability in the economic, social, and political spheres.

Many speakers at the meetings with PRAVDA's chief editor said that the paper is changing; its contents are becoming more lively, colorful and diverse, more and more space is occupied by material presenting different points of view, and trenchant articles are constantly approved for publication.

The participants in the meetings and gatherings which took place in the Vinnitsa region received a first-hand impression of what the PRAVDA of tomorrow will look like. The paper's chief editor spoke about the new forms of presentation of material and about bringing in more authoritative and more expert writers to cover the progress of the fulfillment of the 28th CPSU Congress decisions, the introduction of the market economy, and the creation of the new Union treaty.

"We at PRAVDA are sensitive to the public demand that we publicize all that is advanced and progressive, and that we see more clearly not only our own day-to-day problems but also the long-term goals of society," I.T. Frolov said. "'Where are we going?' This question cannot be ducked. This is why we are reinstating the section on theory and broadening the presentation of humanitarian and human problems. These are our priority avenues together with a system of lively, dynamic information and the 'Discussion Sheet.' In general, thinking about the newspaper of today and tomorrow, I will say that we are all seeking to avoid cheap sensationalism and to produce a serious, honest, discussion newspaper; to thoroughly 'de-officialize' it; to give readers more material on cultural issues; and to satisfy different tastes and interests."

Wishing our newspaper to advance further along the path toward consolidating the sympathies of its readers and winning itself new friends, participants in the meetings with PRAVDA's chief editor expressed the desire that its material had a more aggressive character. In this connection V. Shanovskiy, a professor at Vinnitsa Polytechnical Institute, called on the newspaper to raise the prestige of social sciences more actively. E. Vasilevsky, first secretary of Tyvrovskiy Party Raykom, criticized the editorial board for not fulfilling some of its promises, and in particular for not publishing material on party history that had been promised, writing little about what is happening today in the CPSU, what processes are at work, and how the decisions of the 28th CPSU Congress are being implemented, and providing insufficient criticism from the Ukraine. Commenting on reports on the dismantling of monuments to V.I. Lenin in a number of cities in the republic, a speaker proposed that a decisive rebuff be given to the organizers of such actions in the pages of the newspaper. I. Bondarchuk, Vinnitskiy Party Raykom secretary, urging the participants in the meeting to step up work on subscriptions to PRAVDA and noting everything new and positive that had appeared on its pages over recent months, spoke of the need for greater consistency and planning in the coverage of theoretical problems and for resolute defense of the ideological fundamentals of the CPSU.

A. Mamoshuk, a smelter at the "Mayak" Production Association, proposed that a special rubric be launched in the newspaper featuring regular rebuttals of attacks on the party and on PRAVDA. A. Nekhayevskiy, first secretary of Vinnitsa Party Obkom, and V. Khizhnyak, first secretary of Nemirovskiy Ukrainian Communist Party Raykom, spoke of the important role played by PRAVDA in counteracting antisocialist forces.

These were the opinions of most representatives of party committees and of Communists expressed at the meeting in the oblast center. But even while such discussions were in progress, similar arguments and similar desires were being voiced in rayon centers and villages by ordinary kolkhoz members and by specialists and farm leaders. In the village of Zhabokrich, in Kryzhopolskiy Rayon, where working people of the "Shlyakhom Lenina" Kolkhoz gathered in the village school assembly hall, a speech was delivered by teacher P. Bilyuk. "I have been reading PRAVDA for 25 years," he said, "and I suggest that the newspaper should firmly and decisively defend the party line, and stand up for the interests of the working people and the simple working man."

The wish that the newspaper adhere at all costs to a firm, principled line was heard loud and clear at a meeting in the Kryzhopol House of Culture. Those attending the meeting supported the call made by N. Roga, secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party raykom, for all Communists and working people in the rayon to support PRAVDA and become more actively involved in its distribution.

This was the very subject of discussion at the meeting with readers in the village of Kovalevka in Nemirovskiy Rayon. P. Grigoruk, chairman of the local "Rossiya" Kolkhoz, opening the conversation, noted the hard-hitting nature of articles in the newspaper devoted to the problems of the political struggle in the Ukraine, and called on the PRAVDA editorial board and the organs of power in the Ukraine to defend the honor and dignity of V. Drozd, the newspaper's correspondent in Lvov.

In Kovalevka and Krikovtsy, where a meeting with readers of the newspaper was also held, speakers proposed that PRAVDA write more about the priorities of the countryside, its social and welfare problems. Here as in other places the huge problems that stand in the way of the gasification of villages, and the need to eliminate them as soon as possible, was discussed. N. Sinko, chairman of the "Bolshevik" Kolkhoz, believes that the duty of the party press is to nurture respect for the party statutes among Communists and a sense of discipline among the working people.

The conversations with PRAVDA's friends on Ukrainian soil were part of a major discussion about the newspaper and its role in the implementation of party policy, which the staff of PRAVDA are currently conducting with their readers.

Caucasus

Ter-Petrosyan's Message to Yeltsin Reported

NC2309120290 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Cable sent by Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, to Boris Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation; date not given]

[Text] Esteemed Boris Nikolayevich, I want to express my satisfaction over the substantive conversation which I held with you on (?13) September on problems of mutual concern for Armenia and Russia. We are extremely interested in maintaining the economic relations established between Russia and Armenia and in the gradual transition from the top-down system to lateral ties in relations between the republics.

We greatly appreciate the assistance of the Russian workers in the restoration work in the disaster zone and hope that Russia will find the means to continue the work required for the last months of 1990 and for 1991. In this sphere it is possible to gradually shift to contractual relations.

Finally, the most important question for us is Russia's stance on the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict that has emerged over the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. While maintaining an outward neutrality, Russia has nevertheless been drawn into this conflict unwittingly because the Soviet Army and USSR internal troop subunits in NKAO are the same in the eyes of the people as the Russian Army. This Army has completely taken the place of the local administration organs and is involved not only in punitive actions but also in political, economic, administrative, and other matters of no concern to it.

The central and Azerbaijani authorities' use of the Army as a punitive organ might give it the image of an enemy in the eyes of the Armenian people [words indistinct]. The anti-Army sentiments inevitably turn into anti-Russian sentiments, which in turn undermine the traditional friendship between the Russian and Armenian peoples.

Besides the Army, the presence of the Russians is evident in the Azerbaijan Republic's organizational committees which are forcibly replacing the legal organs of the NKAO.

All these things cannot but worry Russia's new democratic leadership which, for its own interest, could have become actively involved in this problem. The leaders also could have come to the conclusion that the troops should be withdrawn from NKAO and redeployed along the Azerbaijani and NKAO border, thus ensuring normal living conditions for the population of the oblast and engendering real preconditions for the peaceful resolution of the problem through direct negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It is necessary to prevent Russia's interests from being manipulated for the imperialistic aggressions of the center and the nationalistic plans of the Azerbaijani leadership.

Finally, I assure you that we are interested in establishing mutually advantageous relations between Armenia and Russia and are ready to initiate practical work for the preparation of a long-term political treaty between Russia and Armenia.

Respectfully, Levon Ter-Petrosyan

Yerevan Denies Receiving Azerbaijan Protest Note

NC2209061190 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Yerevan, 19 Sep (ARMENPRES)—During its Saturday program Vremya read the text of a note addressed by the Azerbaijani Foreign Affairs Ministry to the Armenian Foreign Affairs Ministry concerning Armenia's so-called unfriendly moves over the last two and a half years and her territorial pretensions.

ARMENPRES correspondent B. Kufaryan asked Armenian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Ashotovich Mkrtchyan to comment on this official note. Here is what he said:

"I heard about the alleged note of the Azerbaijani Foreign Affairs Ministry from the TASS report relayed on the Vremya program. The Armenian Foreign Affairs Ministry has not received this communication. This makes us assume that a new practice has been introduced into international diplomacy in which notes are no longer sent to the foreign ministry in question but directly to the mass media. In fact, such confusion is the continuation of that unprincipled policy which the Azerbaijani leaders use to distort the facts."

Armenians Ordered To Evacuate Armenian Villages

NC2209100090 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Message to Mr. Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Republic, from Gurchiyan, chairman of the Getashen village Soviet and name and title indistinct; place and date not given]

[Text] Esteemed Chairman, the friendly [word indistinct] between Getashen and Khanlar so far have been normal. However, on 20 September the chairman of the executive committee of the Khanlarskiy Rayon Soviet and the first secretary of the rayon party committee presented an ultimatum to the Getashen leadership, demanding that the residents of Getashen and Martunashen evacuate their villages within three days.

The Khanlarskiy leadership declared that the Azerbaijani Council of Ministers has decided to allocate millions to buy up these villages. The Azerbaijanis also pointed out that the troops will soon leave this region and that the Azeris are ready to provide the villagers transportation and to secure passage to Armenia. The Azerbaijanis threatened that if the villagers do not abandon their villages, they will be massacred. They gave a three-day deadline.

This means that the agreement to be on friendly terms has been violated. That in turn means a new deportation. We have sent a cable to Mr. Gorbachev asking for urgent intervention. The troops here are inactive. We also request your intervention. Our ties with Armenia are cut and must be restored immediately. We await your reply.

[Signed] Gurchiyan, chairman of the Getashen village Soviet, and [name indistinct], director of [words indistinct]

Armenian First Deputy Premier Elected 21 Sep

LD2109193490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] The Armenian Parliament today elected 32-year-old Bagratyan as first deputy premier. He is an economist. He was a member of the group, led by Academician Shatalin, which drew up a program for the switch to a market economy.

More New Appointments Reported in Armenia

NC2209113490 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Excerpts] The Armenian Supreme Soviet resumed its session late at 1400 because by prior agreement the parliamentary standing commissions had spent their time examining the nominees to the ministerial posts proposed yesterday. The results of this examination were presented to the session as soon as it opened.

Vazgen Manukyan, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, spoke first and proposed Grant Bagratyan as the nominee for the posts of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee For Economy. He also proposed Genrikh Ovanesyan—a theater expert and doctor-professor of fine arts—as the nominee for the post of the chairman of State Committee for Radio and Television Broadcasts. [passage omitted] The deputies unanimously decided to appoint Grant Bagratyan as the first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Armenian republic and as the chairman of the State Committee for Economy. [passage omitted]

A majority of deputies also voted in favor of Genrikh Ovanesyan. The Supreme Soviet then decided to appoint Genrikh Ovanesyan as chairman of the State Committee for Radio and Television Broadcasts of the Armenian republic. [passage omitted]

After the recess it was decided that the parliamentary work should continue at the commission level. The first session of the first convocation of the republic's Supreme Soviet will resume its deliberations on 1 October at 1000.

Armenian KGB Meets To Assess Situation

NC2209181690 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Yerevan, 18 Sep (ARMENPRES)—A consultative meeting of the leading and operational staff of the republic's Committee for State Security took place on 14 September. Manukyan, chairman of the Armenian Council of Ministers, and Mayilyan, head of the [State and Legal Affairs] Department of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee participated.

Lieutenant General Ponomaryov, deputy chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, opened the consultations. He said that in line with the decision of the Armenian Supreme Soviet and with the consent of USSR President Gorbachev, V. Kryuchkov, the chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, has issued an order relieving Major General Badamyants as chairman of the Armenian Committee for State Security and appointing Maj. Gen. Arutyunyan to that post.

Badamyants, Arutyunyan, and Manukyan spoke next. Manukyan specifically noted that the republic's leadership shows that it understands the work carried out by the staff of the republic's Committee for State Security. He added that soon a meeting will be organized at the Armenian Committee for State Security to discuss in detail the concrete problems to ensure national security.

Chairman of the Committee Arutyunyan thanked the republic's leadership, parliament, and the USSR Committee for State Security for the trust shown in him and for his appointment to that post at such a difficult and demanding times for the Armenian people. He pointed out that the basic aim of the Armenian Committee for State Security is to achieve operational and political stability in the republic in the shortest time possible. To achieve that aim he proposed, as a matter of priority, the organization of a struggle by the republic's own forces—in cooperation with the internal affairs organs—against those armed detachments and groups that have not submitted to parliament's decision and thus have placed themselves "beyond the law."

Armenia, Tajikistan Sign Economic Agreement

NC2109130690 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Before the Armenian Supreme Soviet began its session this morning, Vazgen Manukyan, chairman of the Armenian council of ministers, received a special delegation from Tajikistan headed by (?Vladikiy Odakhom), deputy chairman of the Tajikistan Council of Ministers.

A new economic, scientific, technical and cultural agreement was signed to span 1991 to 1996.

In greeting the guests, Vazgen Manukyan described the agreement as the requirement and consequence of the new economic relations. He highly praised the economic ties and relations being directly established anew between the republics and peoples. [passage omitted]

Abandoned Antiaircraft Guns Discovered in Baku

PM2109145390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report by E. Dzhafarov from the "Television News Service" newscast]

[Text] This find was made by Vitaliy Alekseyevich Zolotenkov, commandant of the Kirovskiy Rayon, Baku City. It comprises some 200 antiaircraft guns, shells scattered here and there, communication cables, and a whole sea of unit-molded antiaircraft gun tires. Everyone is aware of this arsenal, apart from those to whom it must belong by rights.

Alas, the only thing that is known is that all these items were abandoned here in January this year by a unit which departed from here on orders suddenly to an unknown destination.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find out which unit it was and where it was redeployed in such a hurry. Perhaps the Ministry of Defense could do this, and at the same time replace the semi-civilian and not very conspicuous VOKHR [Republic Internal Guard] by an army guard.

Guns are not tanks, they are not easy to sell. At the same time, they should not be left lying around like this.

South Osetia 'Sovereignty' Decision Revoked

LD2109205890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1656 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Eduard Ediberidze and Guram Chanishvili]

[Text] Tbilisi, 21 Sep (TASS)—The Georgian Supreme Soviet Presidium today declared the decision by the South Osetian Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies—an autonomous oblast within Georgia—"on the sovereignty and status of South Osetia" invalid and to be lacking juridicial force.

This meeting took place yesterday. Instead of issues previously defined, the question of the proclamation of an independent South Osetian union democratic republic was discussed at the insistence of invited representatives of public movements. Deputies of solely Osetian nationality were present at the session and they voted for the proposal.

The Georgian Supreme Soviet Presidium decision noted that "the session took place in crude violation of constitutional and legal norms."

The oblast soviet has been instructed to adopt measures which are appropriate for the demands of the constitutions of the USSR and Georgia to be rigorously carried out on the territory of the autonomous oblast.

Situation in Georgia 'Slightly Eased'

LD2209133190 Moscow TASS in English 1257 GMT 22 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Eduard Ediberidze]

[Text] Tbilisi September 22 TASS—Calm and restraint displayed by Georgian law enforcement agencies have slightly eased social and political tension in this transcaucasian republic. The picketing of the building of the Georgian State Security Committee and Supreme Court, mounted by several political parties and organisations several days ago, was lifted as a result of a dialogue in Tbilisi.

The move has been taken in response to the authorities' call for creating normal conditions in the republic ahead of the elections to the national congress, scheduled for late September, and to the Georgian Supreme Soviet, the first multi-party elections in Soviet practice, a month later.

Picketing of Georgian KGB Building Continues

LD2109162390 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 21 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Eduard Ediberidze]

[Text] Tbilisi September 21 TASS—Demonstrators outside the Georgian Interior Ministry have laid down their placards after their demands were met in full: Ilya Society member David Gelashvili has been freed from detention after being arrested on suspicion of participating in a raid on the Interior Ministry department in a Georgian district.

Georgia's prosecutor Vakhtang Razmadze told TASS that the invetigation, nevertheless, was continuing.

The picketing of the Georgian KGB building situated close to the Interior Ministry building continues. Initially, the picketers demanded Gelashvili's release. Now their demands have assumed a more radical character.

They insist on the elimination of the Georgian KGB and demand that the republic's own security service be created.

A statement of the Georgian KGB was published today urging all political organistions to listen to reason. The statement emphasises the readiness for a dialogue with any party and public organisations in the Georgian people's interests.

Georgia Attempts To Ease Cigarette Shortage

PM2109161590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Sep 90

[From the "Television News Service" newscast]

[Text] [Reporter] Georgia supplies 14,000 tonnes of tobacco raw material annually and produces 12 billion tobacco products. These are impressive figures. So why the shortages?

[Yu.S. Polkvadze] Georgia's requirement does not exceed 5 billion items of tobacco articles. Unfortunately, not one of the production lines which used to op[illegible] at 100 percent remains now. As a result there has [illegible] shortfall in the production of cigarettes of so[illegible] 9 billion.

Yesterday the government discussed the issue of the "own brand" store and adopted a decision that, irrespective of quotas and so forth, the "own brand" store must be supplied with cigarettes. The waiting lines which you have filmed will therefore disappear as from tomorrow.

Georgia, Tajikistan Sign Economic Agreement

LD2209162890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] An intergovernmental agreement on economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation between Georgia and Tajikistan was signed in Tbilisi today.

The agreement allows for direct contacts for mutual benefit and the systematic exchange of information and experience. For instance, assistance will be given toward developing direct economic contacts between representatives and organizations, concluding agreements on the supply of resources and materials and half-finished and finished products, and setting up joint ventures.

Permanent missions of Georgia and Tajikistan will be set up in Tbilisi and Dushanbe for the further development of economic, scientific, technical, and cultural contacts to ensure coordination and efficiency in the interrelations of the republics.

Central Asia

Kazakhstan Newspapers, Journals Registered

LD2409000890 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 2300 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Summary] At the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] State Committee for the Press, in accordance with the USSR law on the press and other mass information media, the ceremony of registration of first publications has taken place. Chairman of the State Committee Zakiryanov handed certificates to representatives of editorial offices of the newspapers SOTSIALISTIK KAZAKHSTAN, KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA, HALIK KANGESI, SOVETY KAZAKHSTANA, SOKHBAT, and POZITSIYA heralds; KAZAKHSTAN KOMMUNISTI, PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN KAZAKHISTANA, KAZAKHSTAN AYELDERI, PARATTAR, ARA, [words indistinct] journals.

Also, the newspapers DZHER-KALA of the Semipalatinsk Oblast trade union association, DAVA of Kazakh-Tili society of the Pavlodar Oblast, and other publications totalling 16 were registered. At the present time the reports of the existing and another 22 mass information media are being examined by the Kazakh SSR State Committee for the Press.

Osh Oblast Suffers 'Catastrophic' Gas Shortage

PM2409103590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2012 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report by V. Grobovoy and V. Bogomolov from the "Television News Service" newscast]

[Text] [Reporter] The trials and tribulations ensuing from the state of emergency in Osh Oblast are compounded by another problem—a catastrophic shortage of gasoline. Hundreds of vehicles have been idled. Losses incurred since the beginning of the year already total 3 million rubles.

The oblast soviet executive committee is inundated with cables like this one: "In connection with the unavailability of gasoline school transport, delivery of milk to nursing babies, and transportation of shepherds, herdsmen, and other agricultural workers to various jobs on the kolkhoz [collective farm] have been suspended." There are dozens of telegrams of this kind.

Journal Supplement Focuses on Events in Osh

LD2309094090 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] The staff and authors of the journal LITERATURNYY KIRGIZSTAN have prepared the first express edition of the journal's supplement, entitled KAPLYA. The first issue is devoted to the most acute and explosive problem—the tragic events in Osh Oblast. The journalists prepared a selection of previously unpublished documents, including memoranda of KGB staff, evidence of eyewitnesses, and interviews with investigative groups.

Tajik Muslim Clergy Banned From Politics

PM2409124790 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report under general heading: "In Brief"]

[Text] Talks have ended in Dushanbe between the qadi of the muslims and the imam-khatib of the cathedral mosques of Tajikistan. The result of the talks is a treaty forbidding official members of the clergy from participating in the activity of any political parties, including Islamic parties.

Tajiks in Uzbekistan Restore Nationality

LD2209133690 Moscow TASS in English 1323 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Tashkent September 22 (TASS)—The regional governing council of Bukhara, an ancient city in Uzbekistan, has decided, at the request of Tajiks and the Tajik-speaking population, to allow Tajiks to change nationality in their documents, thus rectifying errors in the 60-year-old policy.

Part of the Tajiks living in the Bukhara oasis, are registered as Uzbeks in their passports. Deformations in the nationality policy of the 1930s did not bypass this people either. More than 900,000 Tajiks now live in Uzbekistan. Excesses also affected this people's cultural requirements. Part of the Tajiks began to be registered in documents as Uzbeks. Their children are also automatically considered as Uzbeks.

The number of schools where instruction is conducted in the Tajik language has now been increased in the Bukhara oasis. The departments of the Tajik language and literature were opened at the Bukhara Pedagogical Institute. A new air route linked Bukhara and Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan.